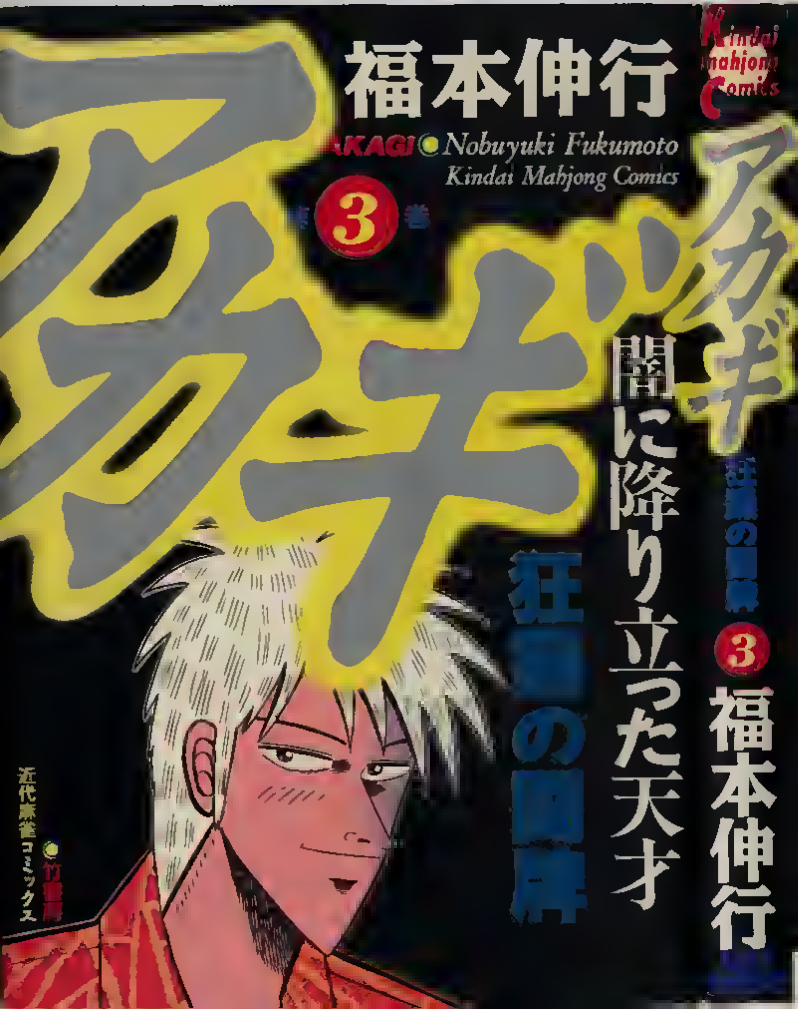
アカギ

福本伸行

AKAGI ● Nobuyuki Fukumoto

Kindai Mahjong Comics

第3巻



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Kindai Mahjong Comics

アカギ 狂闘の章 3

闇に降り立った天才

狂闘の章

福本伸行

闇に降り立った天才

近代麻雀コミックス ● 竹書房

福本伸行

アカギ 第3巻

雑誌 57592-81

定価560円(本体544円)

赤木しげる

竜崎

ヤクザ幹部。南郷との勝負で勝利寸前だったが、赤木により劣勢に。

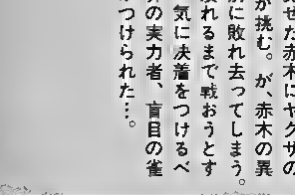
南郷

多額の借金返済のため、己の命を賭けてヤクザと麻雀勝負をする男。

登場人物紹介

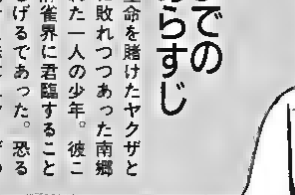
前巻までのあらすじ

昭和33年。生命を賭けたヤクザとの麻雀勝負に敗れつつあった南郷の前に現われた一人の少年。彼こそ後に裏の麻雀界に君臨することになる赤木しげるであった。恐るべき才能を見せた赤木にヤクザの代打ち・矢木が挑む。が、赤木の異端の戦略の前に敗れ去ってしまう。どちらかが潰れるまで戦おうとする赤木に、一気に決着をつけるべく、裏麻雀界の実力者、盲目の雀士・市川がぶつけられた…。



市　川

ヤクザの代打ち。盲目ながら、その技のキレは常人を遥かに凌ぐ。



安　岡

刑事。犯人として追っていた赤木に麻雀の才能を認め、興味を持つ。

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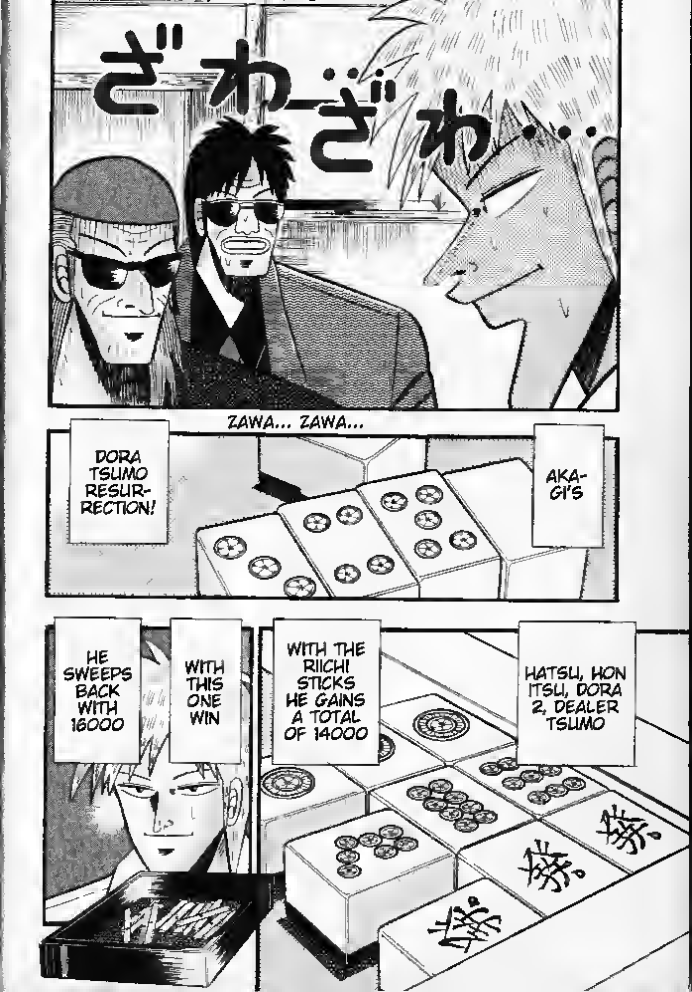
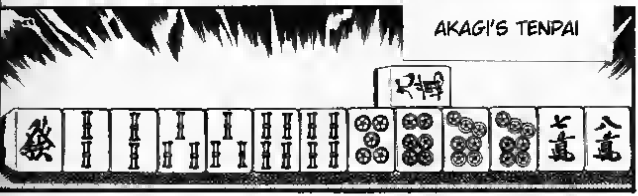
CHAPTER 19: PSYCHOLOGY
第19話心理

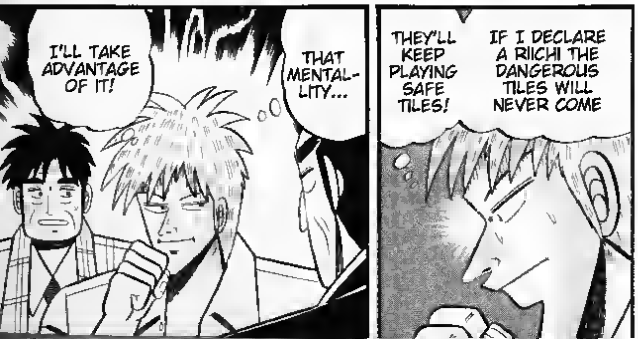

ざわ-ざわ...
ZAWA... ZAWA...
DORA TSUMO RESURRECTION!
AKAGI'S
HE SWEEPS BACK WITH 16000
WITH THIS ONE WIN
WITH THE RIICHI STICKS HE GAINS A TOTAL OF 14000
HATSU, HON ITSU, DORA 2, DEALER TSUMO

THE MATCH EXTE-NDS!
A MATCH UNTIL MINE OR ICHIKAWA'S POINTS BECOME ZERO?
YEAH
SO ALTHOUGH THIS IS THE LAST SOUTH FOURTH ROUND, THE MATCH WON'T END
I SEE
WE'RE NO LONGER AT THE BRINK BUT
IT'S A LITTLE USELESS ...
HMPH
IN SHO-RT...
UNLESS I MAKE DIRECT HITS ON ICHIKAWA
I WON'T HAVE A CHANCE OF VICTORY ...
WELL BUT
BEFORE THAT
RIGHT NOW THE POINTS ARE WITH THE OTHERS
IT SHOULD BE EASY TO TAKE IT FROM THEM...

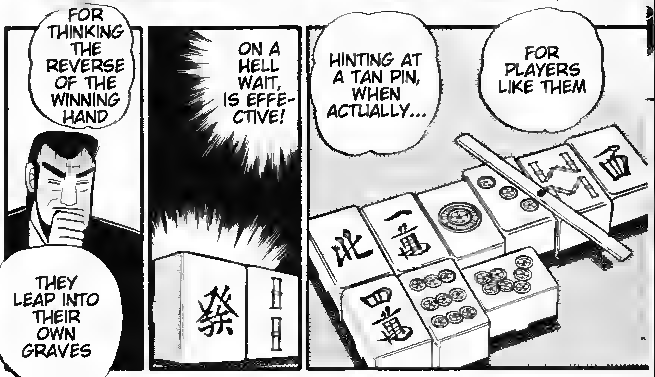
I'LL HAVE TO DO SOMETHING AGAIN TO MAKE IT SATISFACTORY
16000 POINTS IS DISHEARTENING...
CHIRA...
SHIMOCHA
KAMICHA
THEY'RE ONLY TO FILL IN THE NUMBERS FOR THIS BIG GAMBLING MATCH
IT'S EASY TO READ THEIR MINDS
THEY'RE CONFINED
FUFU... I BELIEVE THESE TWO WERE CALLED TO BE THE OTHER TWO PLAYERS

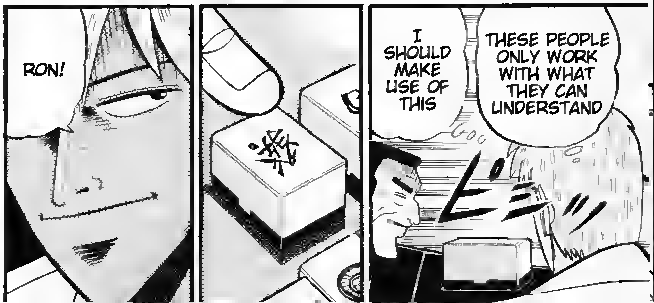
IT WON'T BECOME SOME SHITTY MAHJONG
WELL AT LEAST I'LL HAVE A FAIR MATCH WITH ICHI-KAWA
THEN THERE WILL BE MEANING TO IT...
THAT IDEA IS BAD ...
THEY'LL DO THEIR BEST TO AVOID PAYING
THEY SHOULDN'T BE IN THIS MATCH IN THE FIRST PLACE
THOSE TWO WON'T FOOL AROUND

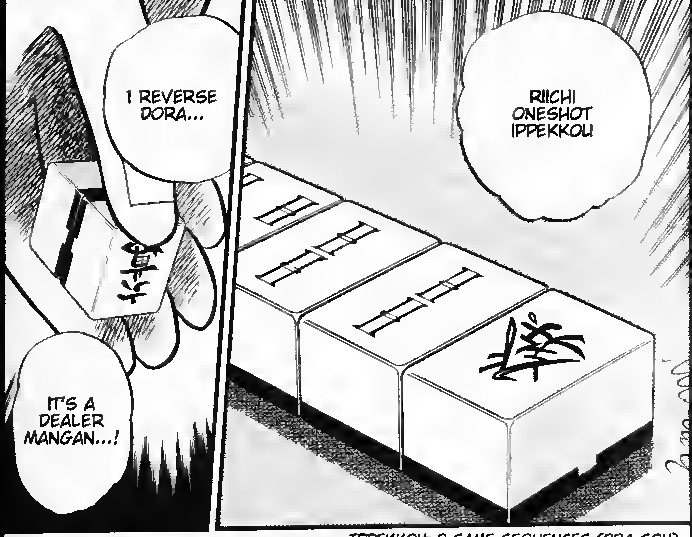

AKAGI'S TENPAI


I'LL TAKE ADVANTAGE OF IT!
THAT MENTAL-LITY...
THEY'LL KEEP PLAYING SAFE TILES!
IF I DECLARE A RIICHI THE DANGEROUS TILES WILL NEVER COME

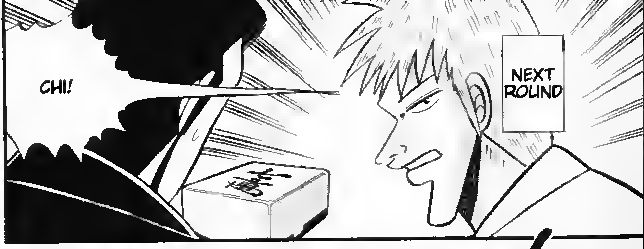
...
FUFU ...
RIICHI!

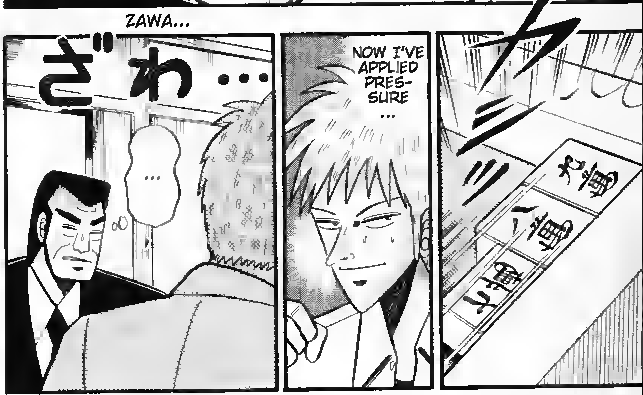

FOR THINKING THE REVERSE OF THE WINNING HAND
THEY LEAP INTO THEIR OWN GRAVES
ON A HELL WAIT, IS EFFE-CTIVE!
HINTING AT A TAN PIN, WHEN ACTUALLY...
FOR PLAYERS LIKE THEM

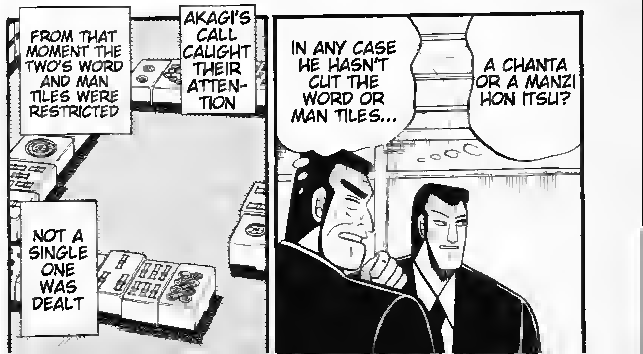

RON!
I SHOULD MAKE USE OF THIS
THESE PEOPLE ONLY WORK WITH WHAT THEY CAN UNDERSTAND



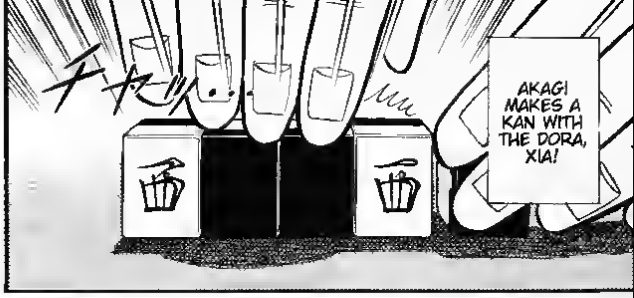
IPPEKKOU 2 SAME SEQUENCES (234 SOU)


CHI!
NEXT ROUND

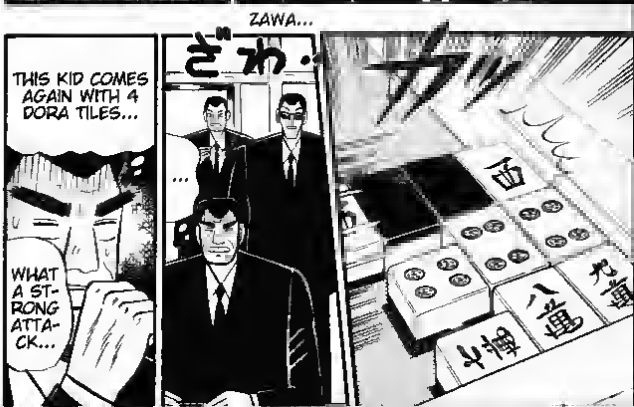

ZAWA...
ざわ…
…
NOW I'VE APPLIED PRES-SURE …


FROM THAT MOMENT THE TWO'S WORD AND MAN TILES WERE RESTRICTED
AKAGI'S CALL CAUGHT THEIR ATTEN-TION
NOT A SINGLE ONE WAS DEALT
IN ANY CASE HE HASN'T CUT THE WORD OR MAN TILES...
A CHANTA OR A MANZI HON ITSU?

PON!
9TH TURN
HE CONFINED THEM
BUT THIS WAS AS AKAGI PLANNED
ZAWA...
...
ZAWA... ZAWA...
KAN!
NEXT TURN
WITH THAT PON THE HON ITSU AND CHANTA VANISHED..
WHAT'S GOING ON?
WHAT IS HE THINKING ...?

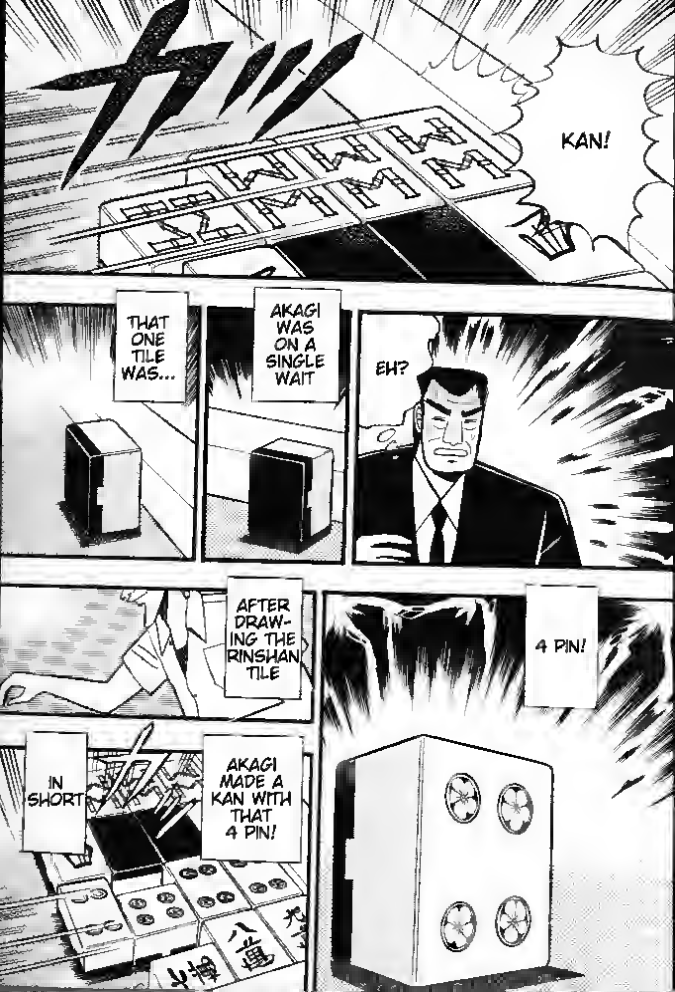

AKAGI MAKES A KAN WITH THE DORA, XIA!

...
DORA 4!
...


ZAWA...
THIS KID COMES AGAIN WITH 4 DORA TILES...
WHAT A ST-RONG ATTA-CK...
ざわ
...

IT'S POSSIBLE HE'S ON A DUAL WAIT
I CAN SEE THAT FROM HIS CALL
HE MUST HAVE THE HONOR TILES TONG, NAN, HAKU, HATSU OR CHUN SECRETLY SUPPORTING HIS DORA 4
THIS BOY'S AIM IS OBVIOUS
BUT...
I KNOW WHERE THE TONG, NAN, HATSU AND CHUN ARE
BUT ...
MEANS HE HAS HONOR TILES IN SECRET
TO MAKE HIS WINNING TICKET EVIDENT...
NEXT TURN, AKAGI
HOWEVER,
I CAN'T CUT THOSE FOUR TILES
IF HE'S ON A SINGLE WAIT
TO MINIMISE THE PAYMENT FOR THE THRICE-CALLED HAND...
HE'S ON A SINGLE WAIT FOR HAKU
IT MUST BE THE REMAINING HAKU

EH...?
...!
CUT A HAKU!
WITH THIS THE SECRET HAKU VANISHES
WHY?
ざーわ...
ZAWA...
IMPOS-SIBLE...
THAT LEAVES ONLY THE CHUN... NO ONE WILL DEAL THAT
CAN'T BE A DUAL WAIT ON TONG, NAN, HATSU OR CHUN
WHAT-EVER IS LEFT
TO BE HONEST CUTTING THAT HAKU MEANT GIVING UP..
I'M HOLDING ON TO THE TONG, NAN AND HATSU


KAN!
THAT ONE TILE WAS...
AKAGI WAS ON A SINGLE WAIT
EH?
AFTER DRAW-ING THE RINSHAN TILE
4 PIN!
IN SHORT
AKAGI MADE A KAN WITH THAT 4 PIN!

ざわ…
ZAWA...
THREE KANS!
CUT THE 1 SOU!
AKAGI THEN DRAWS A RINSHAN TILE AGAIN, AND THE ONE IN HIS HAND...
THE FIRST RIN-SHAN TILE
WASN'T EXPE-CTED ...
THAT HAND...
WHAT KIND OF MAHJONG IS HE PLAYING!!

AKAGI'S THREE KANS, DORA 4!
WITH THIS IT'S COMPLETE!
WHAT IS THIS ...
...
SINGLE WAIT!
I DIDN'T EXPECT A HANE-MAN
HE SOMEHOW CALLED FOUR TIMES

SAFE TILE...
FUFU...
SAFE TILE...
I CANNOT CUT INTO HIS SINGLE WAIT
THIS ACTION IS NATURAL
THINKING ABOUT THE MAHJONG THEY'VE PLAYED SO FAR...
JUST AS I PRED-ICTED
...
KAMI CHA
KU KU KU...
LET'S SEE WHAT YOU'LL DO THEN!
THAT IS FINE...
WELL, BEING SHELTERED BY WHAT YOU CAN SEE
THE PROBLEM IS WHEN YOU HAVE NONE LEFT...

WHAT IS HE INTEND-ING?
THE TILE HE'S WAITING ON RIGHT NOW CAN'T BE THAT ONE
BECAUSE HE CHANGED HIS TILE AND CUT THE 1 SOU JUST NOW
HE'S PLANNING SOME-THING
WHAT IS THIS BRAT WAITING ON?
...
COULD IT BE ...
SINCE HE CUT THAT
IT'S THE BEST TILE FOR A TSUMO
THE 1 SOU IS A LIVE TILE...
I CAN'T CUT THESE LINE OF MAN TILES!
IF SO ...
A RON? AIMING FOR
HE'S WAITING ON ONE OF THE TILES WE HAVE?

...
I SHOULD INSTEAD TURN TO THE SOU OR PIN TILES...
...
FUFU...
THINK, THINK
TO CAUSE A SOU2I AND PIN2I OVERFLOW...
MY AIM WAS
YOU'LL FALL INTO MY TRAP
IN THE PROCESS OF THINKING
WHAT REMAINS ARE THE SOU AND PIN TILES, BUT THERE IS NO INSURANCE AGAINST A SINGLE WAIT IN THE FIRST PLACE...
AFTER READING MY CUTTING THE 1 SOU AS AIMING FOR A RON... IT BECOMES DIFFICULT FOR YOU TO CUT THE MAN AND WORD TILES

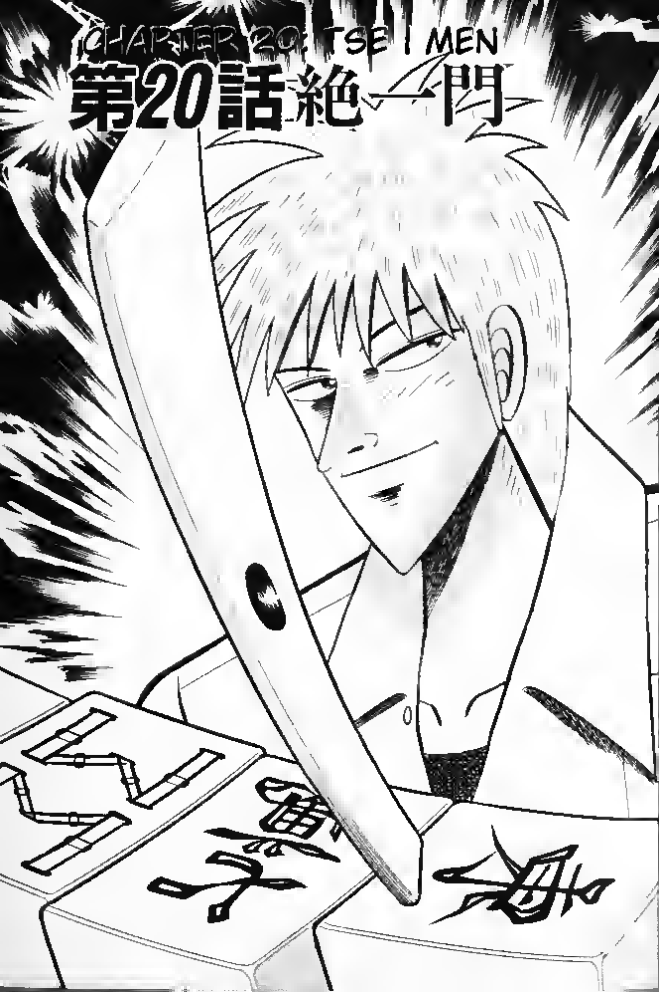
WHAT WILL FLOW OUT?
IF I ADD A TO THE DANGER A SECOND OR THIRD LAYER OF SAFETY ...
I'D SET A TRAP ON MY PAIR
WHILE YOU WERE THINKING
TO 3 PIN!
I'M LU-RI-ING YOU
FUFU ...
SAME GOES FOR THE 8 SOUS -> 7 AND 9 SOUS...
THE 4 PINS ARE USED UP SO IT'S HARD TO USE 3 PINS
KAMI CHA
AND FACE DEATH!
NOW... COME...

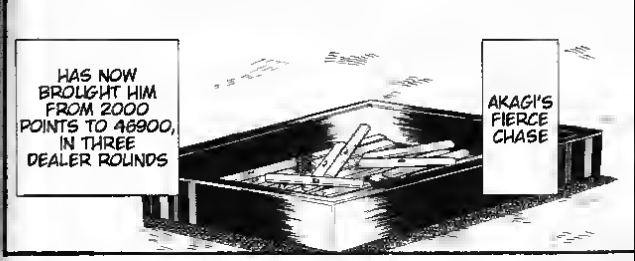
KAMI CHA'S HAND
南東東發發中
萬萬
YURA...
AS IF POSSESSED
HE CUTS...
IF NOT ...
WILL AKAGI'S INSIGHT BRING THE WINNING TILE...?
...
WH-IT EL-SE?
IS THIS THE WORK OF DEMONS?
...

3 KAN
DORA 4
HANEMAN
RON...!
FUFU...
UOO!!
YOU DID IIIT!!
YOU DID IT!!
HOW MUCH IS IT WITH THIS!?
ERM...
...
4...
46900...!!

RIGHT!
YOU'RE REALLY DEPEND-ABLE
WELL...
YOU'RE REALLY A GENIUS!
YOU SURE DID IT AKAGI
SUCH BIG WORDS...
FUFU...
...
BUT THERE'S STILL ONE MORE OBST-ACLE BEFORE ME
YOU CAN CELE-BRAT AFTER I KILL HIM...
THAT IS...
FUFU...
NOW THE MAIN EVENT CAN BEGIN...
YOU'VE BEEN TOYING WITH THE SMALL FRY
RIGHT...

KILLING ICHIKAWA!


CHAPTER 20: TSUBAME
第20話 絶一門

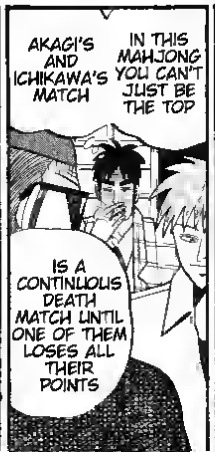

HAS NOW BROUGHT HIM FROM 2000 POINTS TO 46900, IN THREE DEALER ROUNDS
AKAGI'S FIERCE CHASE

ZAWA...

AS EXPECTED OF AKAGI ...
HE CHANGED THE FLOW OF THE MATCH

ざわ

THAT MEANS WE HAVE TO GET DIRECT HITS ON ICHIKAWA
THAT IS VERY DIFFI-CULT ...

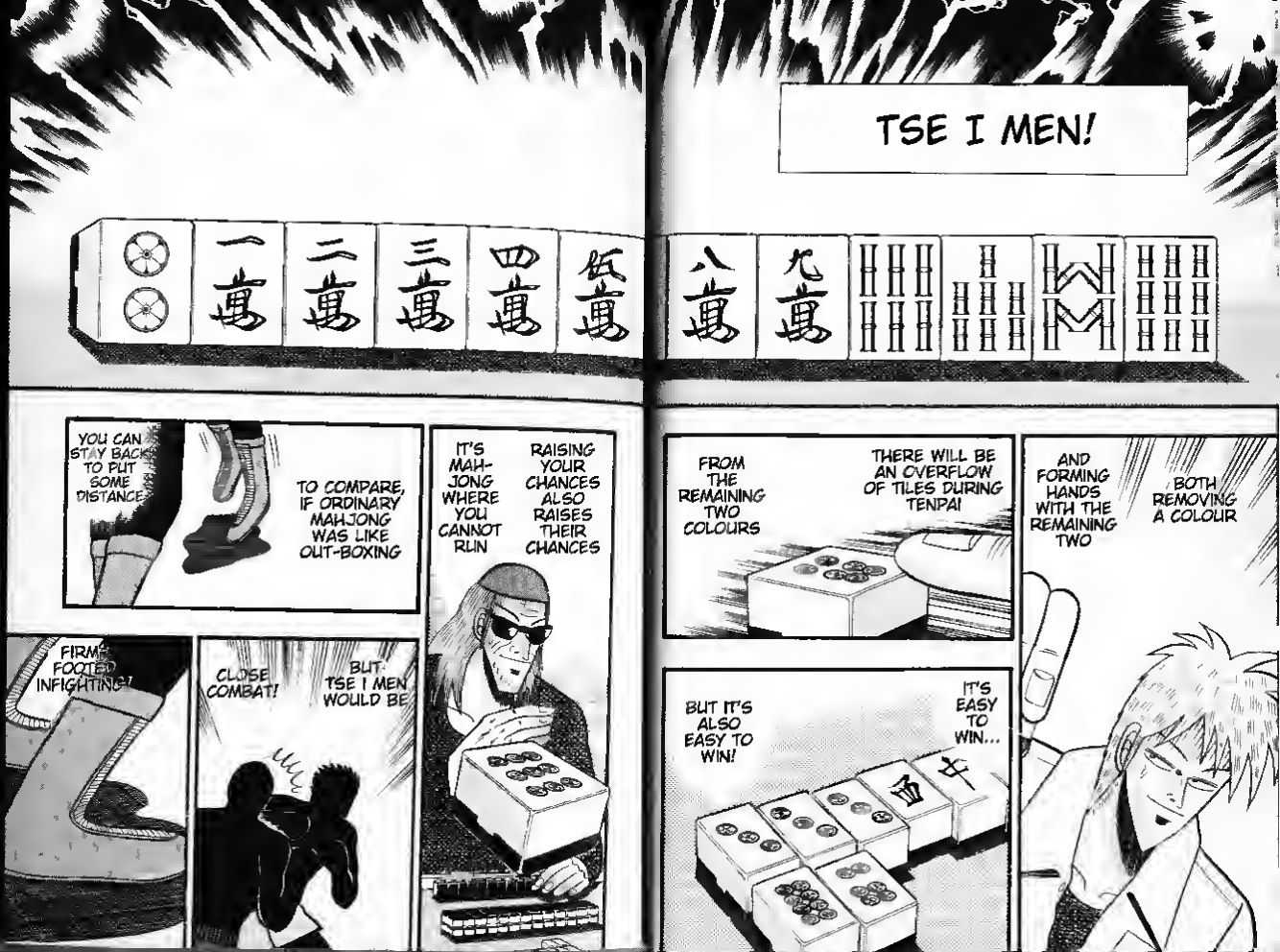

AKAGI'S AND ICHIKAWA'S MATCH
IN THIS MAHJONG YOU CAN'T JUST BE THE TOP
IS A CONTINUOUS DEATH MATCH UNTIL ONE OF THEM LOSES ALL THEIR POINTS

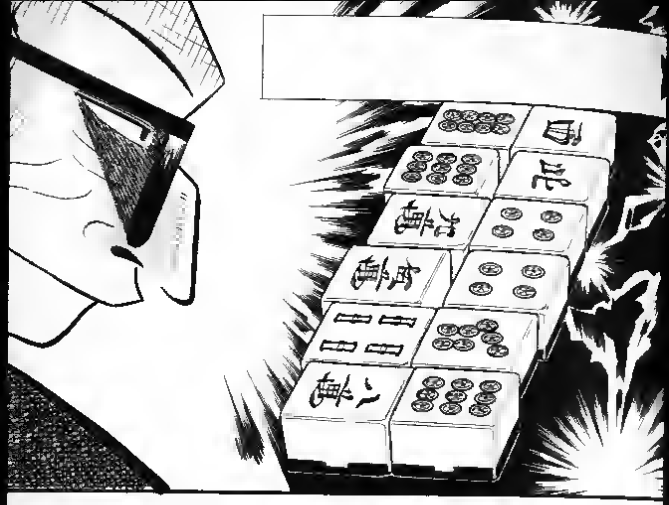
UP TO NOW IT WAS ALL WARMING UP
BUT...
THE REAL CHALLENGE IS FROM HERE

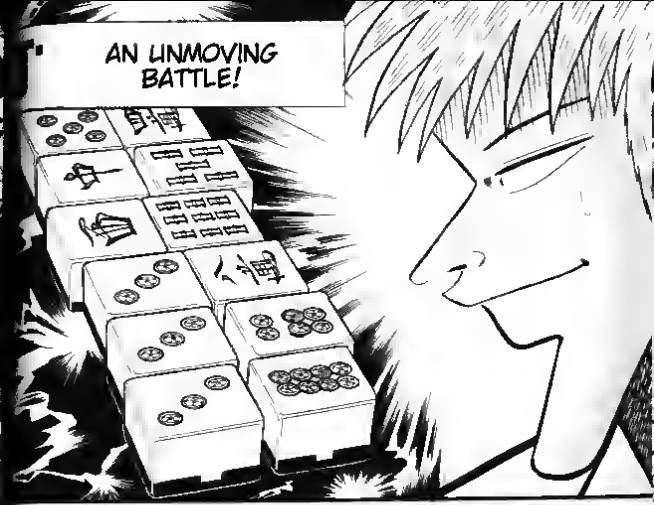
PERHAPS IT WON'T BE TOO DIFFICULT TO GET A 3900 DIRECT HIT ON ICHIKAWA
HE GAINED 40 OR 50 THOUSAND FROM THE OTHERS
WHY THE 3 PIN FROM THIS HAND?
...?
AKAGI'S HAND
EH?
THE REAL MATCH STARTS HER-
U...
BUT AKAGI CUTS THE 3 PIN ON THE SECOND TURN
AND ON THE THIRD TURN!

CONTIN-
UOUSLY
CUTTING
THREE
3 PINS!
ZAWA...
ZAWA...
NO ONE
KNOWS
WHAT HIS
INTENTION
IS
WHA?
WHAT'S HE
DOING?
AKAGI...
FOR
ONE
PERSON
EX-
CEPT

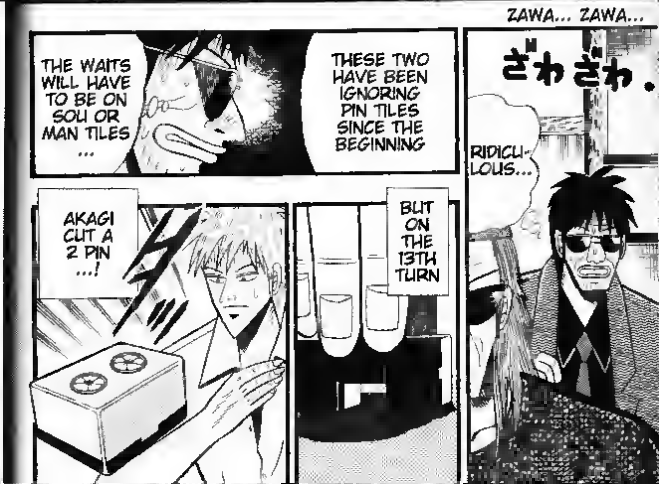
WHAT ARE THESE TWO DOING?
OI OI
...
ICHIKAWA'S POND
AND ICHIKAWA ACCEPTED
FIRST AKAGI CHALL-ENGED
KILL-ING A COLOR ...
HE DEDUCED THAT NOR-MALLY PLAYING WOULD MAKE IT DIFFICULT FOR HIM TO GET DIRECT HITS
HE'S KILLING OFF ONE OF THE THREE COLOURS OF NUMBERED TILES
THAT'S IT!


TSE I MEN!
一萬
二萬
三萬
四萬
伍萬
八萬
九萬
YOU CAN STAY BACK TO PUT SOME DISTANCE
TO COMPARE, IF ORDINARY MAHJONG WAS LIKE OUT-BOXING
IT'S MAH-JONG WHERE YOU CANNOT RUN
RAISING YOUR CHANCES ALSO RAISES THEIR CHANCES
FIRM-FOOTED INFIGHTING!
CLOSE COMBAT!
BUT TSE I MEN WOULD BE
FROM THE REMAINING TWO COLOURS
THERE WILL BE AN OVERFLOW OF TILES DURING TENPAI
AND FORMING HANDS WITH THE REMAINING TWO
BOTH REMOVING A COLOUR
BUT IT'S ALSO EASY TO WIN!
IT'S EASY TO WIN...



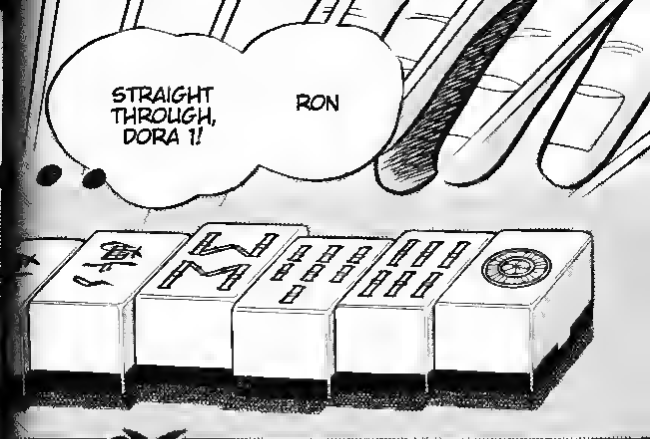

AN UNMOVING BATTLE!

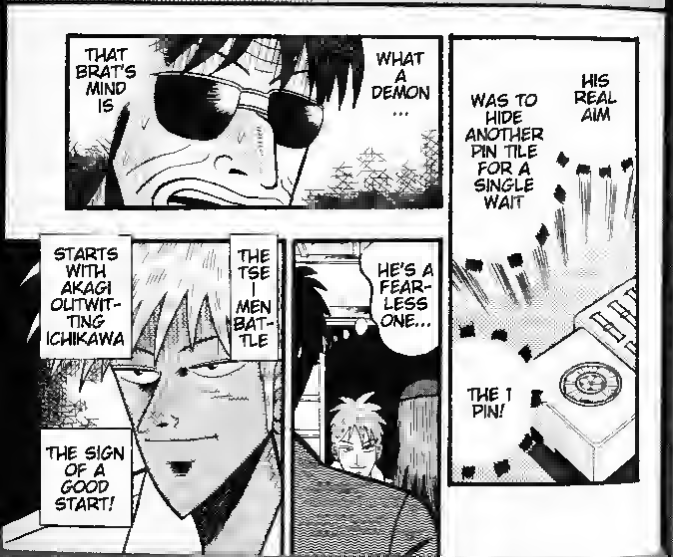
WAIT...
...
WHY NOW ...
A 2 PIN FROM HIS HAND?
ZAWA...
ざわ
...EH?
WAS SETTING A TRAP RIGHT FROM THE START!
I SEE... THIS BRAT


THE WAITS WILL HAVE TO BE ON SOU OR MAN TILES ...
THESE TWO HAVE BEEN IGNORING PIN TILES SINCE THE BEGINNING
ZAWA... ZAWA...
ざわざわ
RIDICULOUS...
AKAGI CUT A 2 PIN ...!
BUT ON THE 13TH TURN

TO PREY ON THE UNGUARDED PIN TILES
THAT WAS AKAGI'S 2 PIN'S AIM
BUT HE ACTED ON THAT BASIS AND WAITED ON A PIN TILE
HE EFFECTIVELY CONCEALS IT
WAS THE PIN SUIT!
THE COLOUR THAT WAS TO BE REMOVED BY TSE I MEN THIS ROUND
NATURALLY THAT COLOUR BECOMES A SAFE SUIT
BUT THE SHIMO CHA AND KAMI CHA HAVE CUT ALL THE REMAINING 2 PINS
HE WAS THE ONE WHO PROPOSED THE TSE I MEN AT THE START ...
...SERIOUSLY, HOW UNPREPARED
AND HAD TO GIVE UP ON THE 2 PIN... HE SHOULD BE WAITING FOR SOU OR MAN TILES
HE COULDN'T DO ANYTHING ...

カッ…
一萬
二萬
三萬
四萬
五萬
六萬
七萬
八萬
…
AKAGI CUT THE 2 PIN…
…
KUKUKU…


STRAIGHT THROUGH, DORA 1!
RON


THAT BRAT'S MIND IS
WHAT A DEMON ...
HIS REAL AIM
WAS TO HIDE ANOTHER PIN TILE FOR A SINGLE WAIT
THE 1 PIN!
STARTS WITH AKAGI OUTWITTING ICHIKAWA
THE TSE-MEN BATTLE
HE'S A FEARLESS ONE...
THE SIGN OF A GOOD START!

I WOULD MERGE THE PAGES, BUT THERE'S THE FOLDING
SINGLE WAIT ON 1 PIN!
I GET 8600 AND WE ENTER THE THIRD HANCHAN...
HE GAVE UP ON THE "2 PIN WAIT" HALFWAY ...
A DOUBLE TRAP!
WAITED ON THAT...
THIS IMP ...
UGH...

TSE I MEN BATTLES BETWEEN THE TWO BEGAN
AND THUS THE END-LESS
FOR SINGLE WAITS!
USED THE COLOUR REMOVED BY TSE I MEN
FROM THERE AKAGI OFTEN
RON!
IT DECIDES THE BATTLE IN A FLASHY WAY

わっ…ドン
RIICHI
TANYAO
2600
SUCH WAS AKAGI'S VARIABLE FIGHTING
チャラ
AT FIRST IT APPEARED TO HAVE TOYED WITH ICHIKAWA
DAMN...
...
YOU HIT HIM AGAIN!
YOU DID IT!
FU FU ...

TSUMO!
ICHIKAWA'S PACE WASN'T SHAKEN BY THIS PUNY ATTACK
IN TRUTH, THIS WAS WRONG!
HE SEES TSUMOS NOW AND THEN
DOES NOT CARE FOR THE DIRECT HITS FROM AKAGI
ICHI-KAWA'S ORTHO-DOXY
UGH ...
THE UNA-VOIDABLE OVERFLOW OF TILES
AND THEN THE FATE OF TSE I MEN

TAN PIN DORA 2, MANGAN
RON!
HE ATTACKS!
ZAWA...
ZAWA
KU KU KU ...
...
THAT'S EXPECTED OF THE BACKSEAT ICHIKAWA ...
AKAGI IS STILL LEADING ...
IT'LL HURT THE PSYCHE
THE PAYMENT FOR THIS TILE DOESN'T HURT
CALM DOWN ...
IF YOU PLAY TSE I MEN YOU HAVE TO PAY
...

BUT THE TWO'S FIGHTING STYLES CONTRAST
IT'S THE SAME TSE I MEN BATTLE
THE BATTLE REPEAT-EDLY SHIFTS BACK AND FORTH
ICHIKAWA REMAINS FAITHFUL TO THE BASICS
AKAGI'S METHOD FAVORS CHANGE
BEGANS TO WIDEN
...
THE GAP BET-WEEN THEM
BUT GRAD-UALLY

RON! PINHU IPPEKKOU DORA 2
ZAWA...
さわ
...
...
MAN-GAN
KU KU KU ...
AKAGI'S EXPRESS-ION HAS CHANGED
NANGOU-SAN, THAT'S A LITTLE WRONG
NO...
...
THAT OVER-FLOWED TILE WON'T HURT
RELAX, RELAX
IT'S EXPECTED IN TSE I MEN...

AKAGI IS WORRIED!
AKAGI MADE A STRONG IMPRESSION
THE TRICKS IN THE FIRST TWO BOUTS AT THE START WERE FINE
ON THE OTHER HAND, ICHIKAWA'S WINNING METHOD IS ORDINARY ...
BUT...
I HAD THE SAME THOUGHT AS YOU, NANGOU-SAN
AT FIRST
THE TRU-TH WAS ...
...
EH...?

EH?
THE POINTS ARE BEING CONTROLLED BY ICHIKAWA!
THE POINTS WON DIFFER EACH ROUND.
THEY HAVE HIT EACH OTHER ABOUT THE SAME NUMBER OF TIMES...
HE WALKS THE WINNING PATH OF MAHJONG BY INCORPORATING YAKU INTO HIS HAND
ICHIKAWA'S TANYAO PINHU AND IPPEKKOU
AKAGI'S CHANGING WAITS ARE HARDER TO INCORPORATE YAKU INTO
THAT'S NATURAL
IT'S ALWAYS A CHEAP HAND

IT'S TRUE THAT THIS WINNING METHOD IS DULL
ALTHOUGH HE USED A RYANMEN WAIT AT TIMES
HE DOESN'T SUPPORT AN "I COULD HAVE DONE THAT" IMAGE
BUT IT ACTUALLY MAKES THE WIN BIG
BECAUSE ICHIKAWA'S TSUMO WINS OFFSET THE HANDS HE GAVE AWAY
HE'S WINNING AKAGI IN THE FIGHT FOR POINTS
YOU COULD SAY THE CARDS THAT AKAGI USED
WERE TURNED ON HIM!
RON!

KU KU KU ...
UGH ...
IT CANNOT WORK DUE TO THE OVERFLOW OF TILES
YOUR TSE I MEN WAITING METHOD IS ABSURD
YES
YOU'RE GRADU-ALLY FEELING IT, AKAGI-KUN...
I HAVE CRUSHED THEM...
THE CARDS THAT YOU LIKE...
BUT I WIN!
...
WELL... IT'S FINE THAT YOU'RE BETTER AT MAHJONG, AND I PAY AT TIMES
IT'S FINE THAT I'M WORSE ...

THAT IS SOMETHING EVEN GOD CANNOT DO!
TO DEFEAT ME YOU HAVE TO DEFY THE LOGIC OF MAHJONG...

第21話 窮地

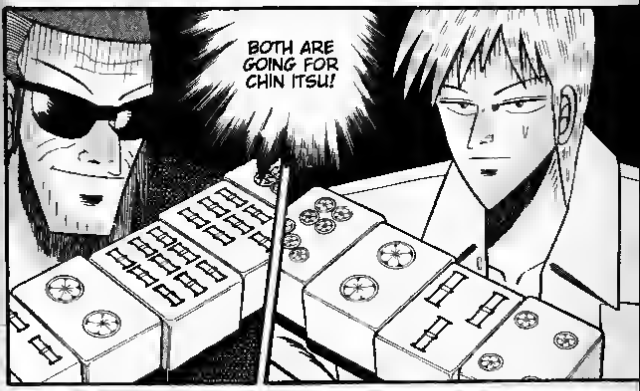
CHAPTER 21: DILEMMA

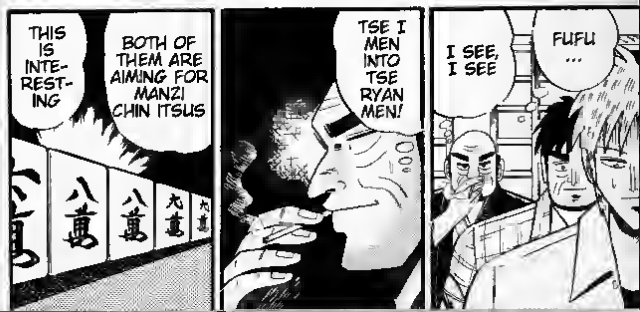
AKAGI AND ICHIKAWA'S TSE I MEN BATTLE...
ICHIKAWA HAS THE DVANTAGE WITH THE TSE I MEN
AKAGI KNOWS IT
LATER THE TWO'S SKILL DIFFERENCE BECOMES CLEARER
AT FIRST THE MATCH SEEMED EVEN
ONCE 55000 POINTS HAD SLOWLY DEPLETED TO 23000
ON THE OTHER HAND AKAGI'S
HE'D FINALLY EXCEEDED 100 THOUSAND POINTS!
ICHI-KAWA'S POINTS KNOW NO LIMIT

HE'S FINALLY GOING FOR THE KILL!
HE GIVES UP ON TSUMOS FOR DIRECT HITS ON AKAGI
ICHI-KAWA'S STYLE CHAN-GED!
AND TO GET RID OF THE 25000
...
WITNESS - TAKEYOSHI GROUP LEADER MIYAUCHI
WILL ICHIKAWA DECISIVELY SETTLE IT?
OR WILL AKAGI REBOUND?
IT'S BEEN 2 HOURS SINCE THE TSE I MEN BEGAN ...
THE CLIMAX HAS COME AT LAST ...

ざわ
ざわ..

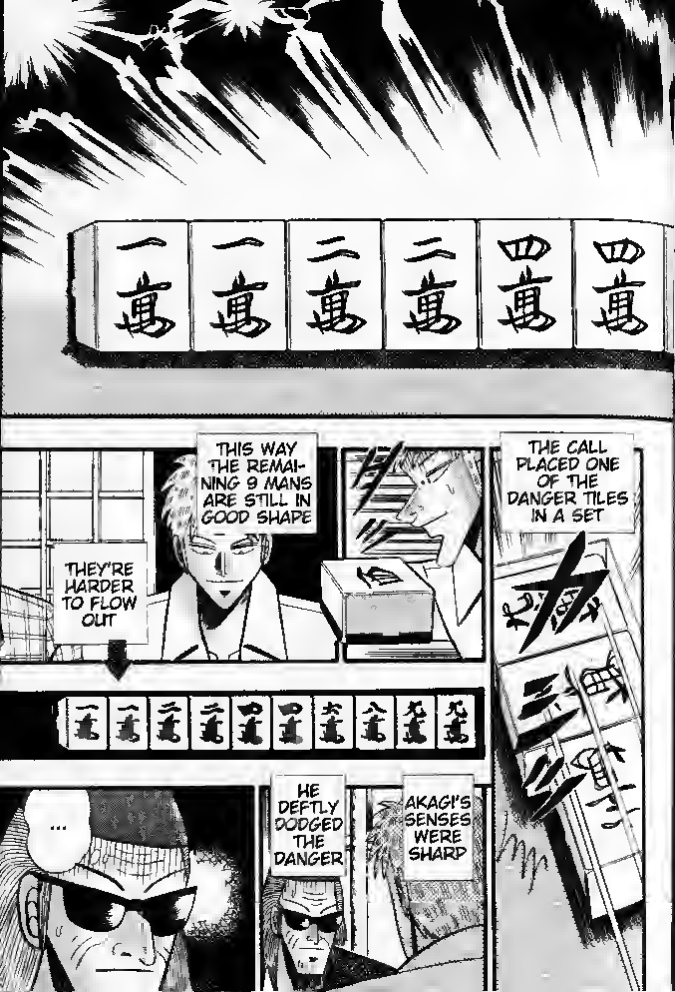
ZAWA... ZAWA...

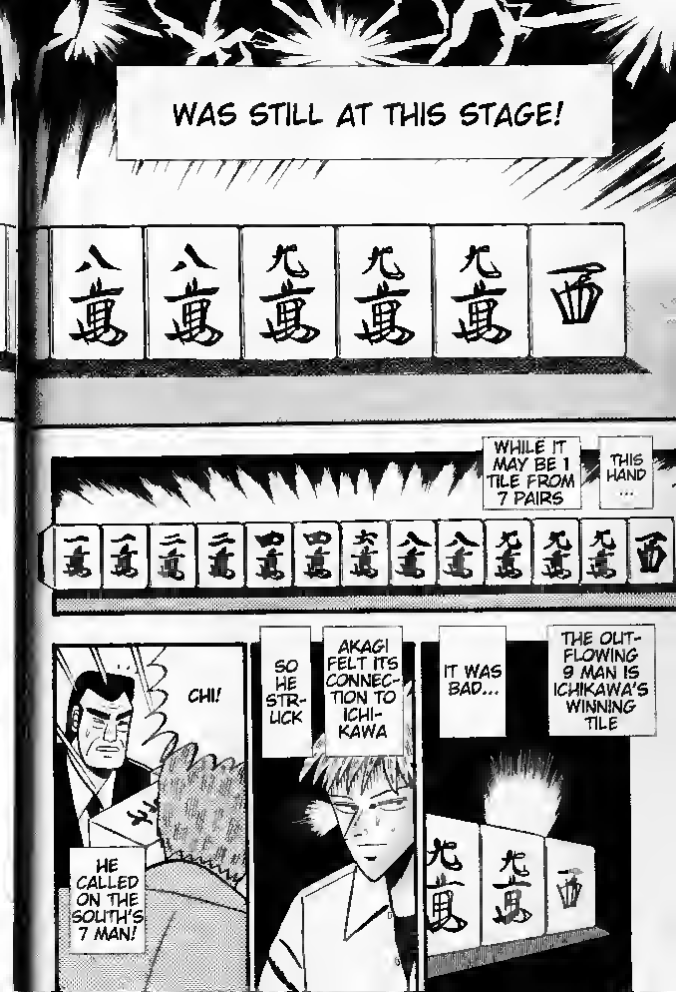

BOTH ARE GOING FOR CHIN ITSU!


THIS IS INTE-REST-ING
BOTH OF THEM ARE AIMING FOR MANZI CHIN ITSUS
八萬
八萬
九萬
九萬
TSE I MEN INTO TSE RYAN MEN!
I SEE, I SEE
FUFU ...

IF YOU PATIENTLY WAIT FOR THE WINNING TILE YOU'RE DEAD
チラ
THE TWO'S HANDS ARE BECOMING STRONGER
TSE RYAN MEN IS GRAPPLING
IF TSE I MEN WAS INFIGHTING
CHIRA...
THE WINNING TILE IS MORE LIKELY TO BE SEIZED BY ICHIKAWA
THE FLOW ISN'T WITH AKAGI
ISN'T THIS A LITTLE RECKLESS?
AKAGI...
...
7TH TURN
WHILE ICHIKAWA WAS IN GOOD SHAPE
YASUOKA'S ANALYSIS WAS RIGHT
IN-DEED ...
AKAGI HAS NO POWER

二萬 三萬 三萬 四萬 四萬 伍萬
ICHIKAWA, TENPAI!
七萬 八萬 九萬 中 中 中
RIICHI!
NEW DORA IS 7 MAN!
KAN!
FOLLOWING THE EAST TURN
東 東
AT THAT TIME AKAGI
... BUT ...
WITHIN 7 TURNS THE ROUND SEEMED TO HAVE ENTERED ITS END-GAME
THEY'RE CATCHING UP WITHOUT DELAY
BESIDES ICHIKAWA, THE SOUTH IS IN TENPAI
AS EXPECTED OF ICHIKAWA ...
THIS ROUND ...
HMM ...
WAITING ON 3, 6, 9 MAN!
THE HAND'S THE SAME COLOR, BUT IS MILES BETTER THAN WHAT I SAW OF AKAGI'S
HE HOLDS THE CHUN DORA, AND HAS AN EARLY 3-WAY WAIT TENPAI... IT CAN'T BE MORE PERFECT
五萬 六萬 七萬 八萬 九萬 中 中 中


一萬 一萬 二萬 二萬 四萬 四萬
THIS WAY THE REMAINING 9 MANS ARE STILL IN GOOD SHAPE
THEY'RE HARDER TO FLOW OUT
THE CALL PLACED ONE OF THE DANGER TILES IN A SET
...
HE DEFTLY DODGED THE DANGER
AKAGI'S SENSES WERE SHARP

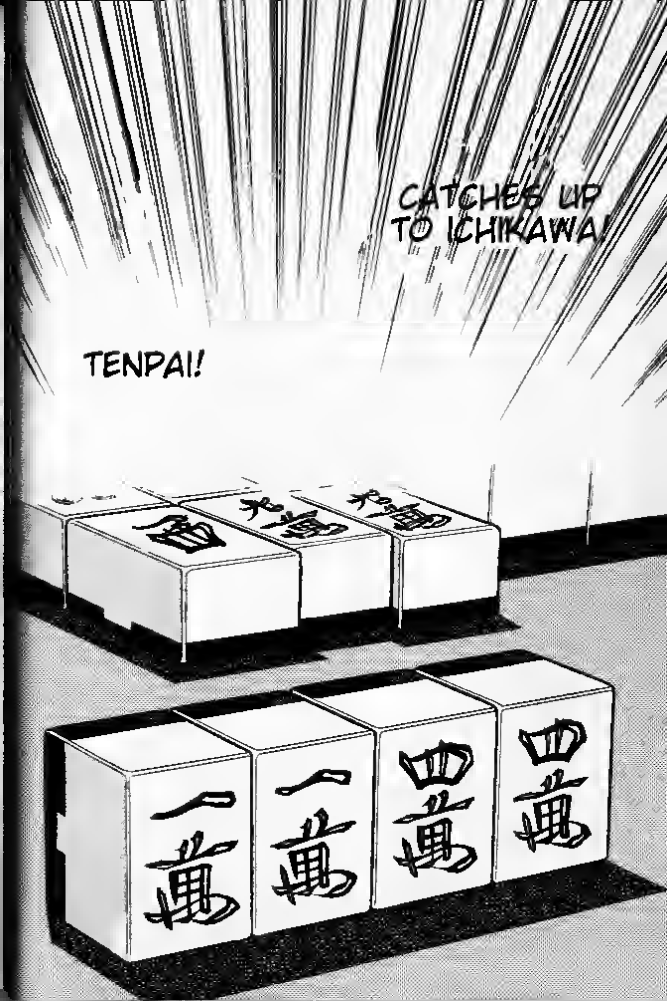

WAS STILL AT THIS STAGE!
八萬 八萬 九萬 九萬 九萬 西
WHILE IT MAY BE 1 TILE FROM 7 PAIRS
THIS HAND ...
CHI!
HE CALLED ON THE SOUTH'S 7 MAN!
SO HE STRUCK
AKAGI FELT ITS CONNECTION TO ICHIKAWA
IT WAS BAD...
THE OUT-FLOWING 9 MAN IS ICHIKAWA'S WINNING TILE
九萬 九萬 一萬

HE READ IT PRECISELY
AKAGI INTENDS TO USE UP HIS 3, 6 AND 9 MANS
CAUGHT ONTO AKAGI'S MOVE
HOWEVER, ICHIKAWA...
CHI!
5 MAN
THE 3, 6, 9 MANS WON'T FLOW FROM HIM...
NOW...
カミ!!!

ICHIKAWA CHANGED HIS WAIT
FROM 3, 6, 9 TO 2, 5, 8 MAN!
CHI
HE MOVES TO WAIT ON AKAGI'S NEXT OUTFLOWING TILE, 8 MAN
...
LIKE A RADAR-GUIDED MISSILE
HE MARKS HIS TARGET'S MOVE-MENTS CLOSELY
HE PUR-SUES!
ICHIKAWA'S 2, 5, 8 WAIT
CHI

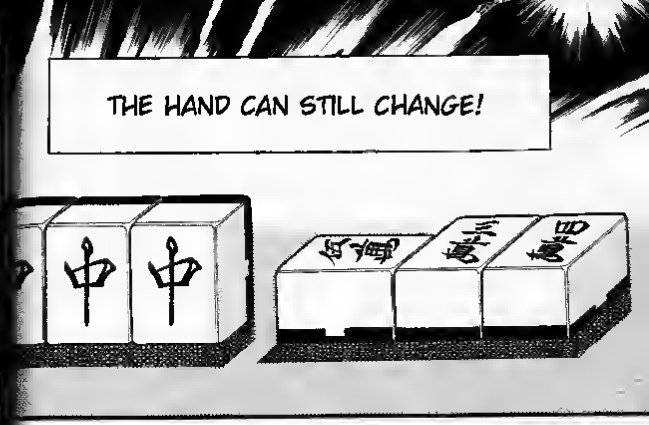
CHI!
AKAGI PARRIES THAT
HE USES HIS 8 MAN!
...
ICHIKAWA'S WAIT WAS ONCE AGAIN SHAKEN OFF!
THE 8 MAN IN HIS HAND IS GONE
CUT-TING 9 MAN

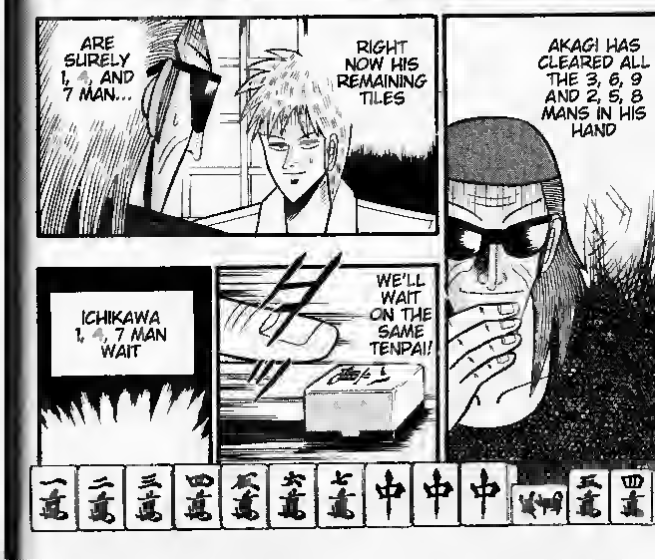
THAT WAS ICHIKAWA'S WINNING TILE
2 MAN!
9TH TURN
HE'S AIMING FOR A DIRECT HIT ON AKAGI THIS ROUND...
BUT ICHIKAWA DOESN'T MOVE...
WITH THAT, AKAGI
THEN I'LL TAKE IT!
FUFU... IF YOU AREN'T GOING TO SETTLE IT
PON


CATCHES UP TO ICHIKAWA!
TENPAI!

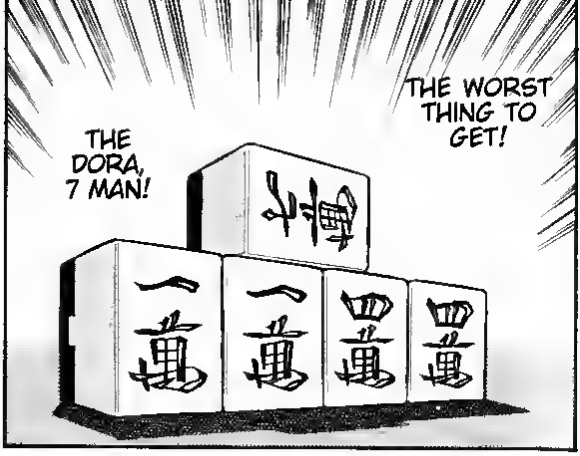
AT LAST AT A 1 AND 4 MAN TENPAI WAIT!
ICHI-KAWA'S WAIT SLIPS BY
...
HE AVOIDS ICHI-KAWA

RELENTLESSLY PURSUING!
ICHIKAWA IS ONE STEP HIGHER!
THEY BOTH WAIT ON THE SAME TILES BUT WITH AN ADDITIONAL 7 MAN
AKAGI'S 1, 4 MAN AND ICHI-KAWA'S 1, 4, 7 MAN WAIT


THE HAND CAN STILL CHANGE!

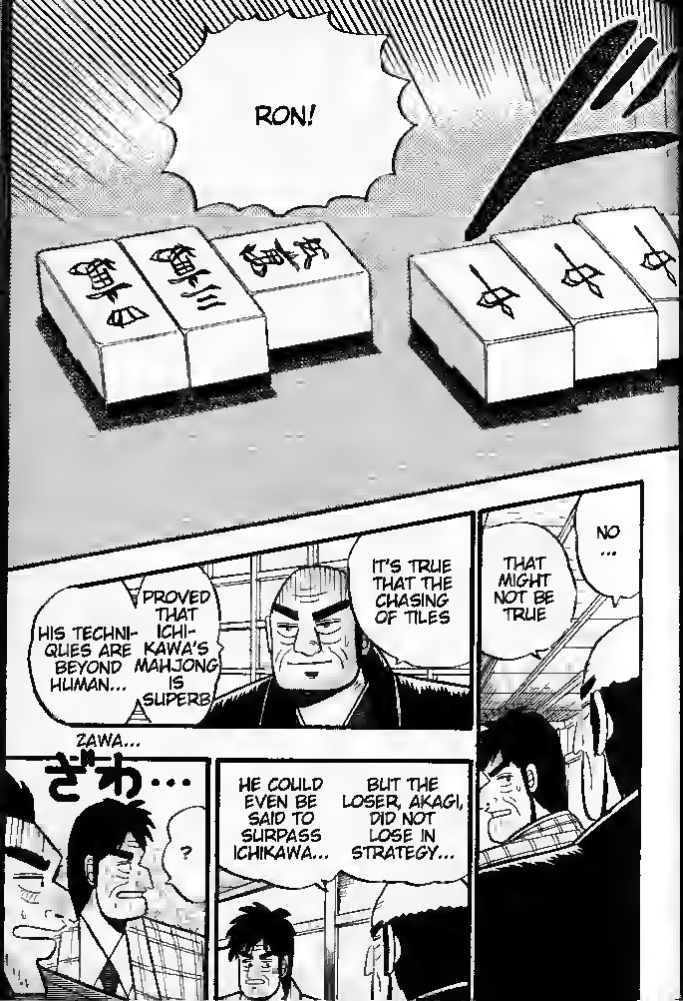

ARE SURELY 1, 4, AND 7 MAN...
RIGHT NOW HIS REMAINING TILES
AKAGI HAS CLEARED ALL THE 3, 6, 9 AND 2, 5, 8 MANS IN HIS HAND
ICHIKAWA 1, 4, 7 MAN WAIT
WE'LL WAIT ON THE SAME TENPAI!

AKAGI!


THE WORST THING TO GET!
THE DORA, 7 MAN!

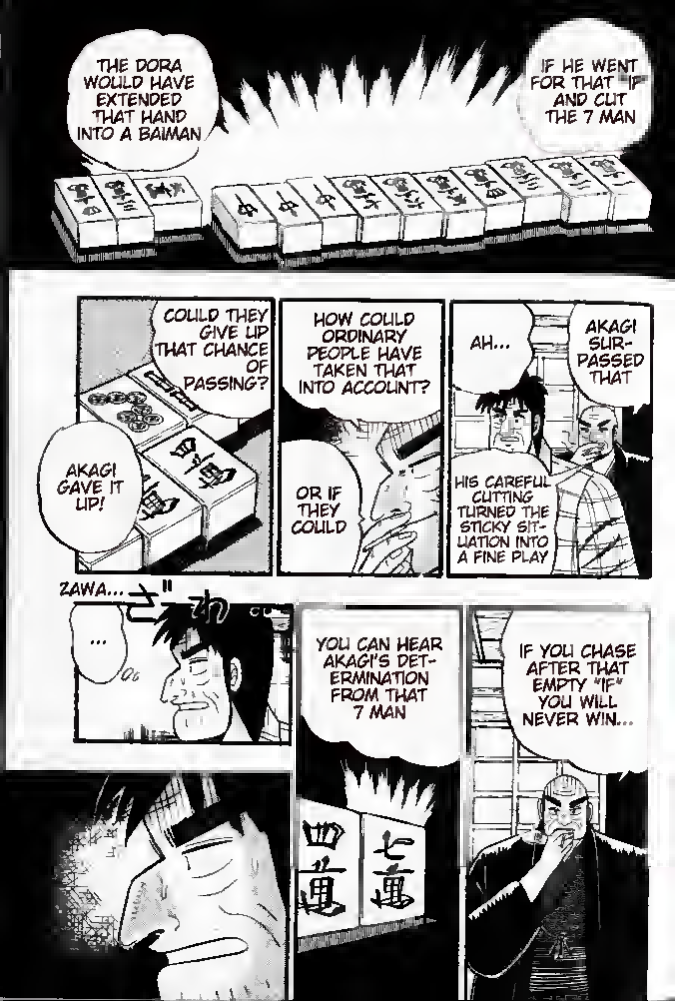
...UGH...

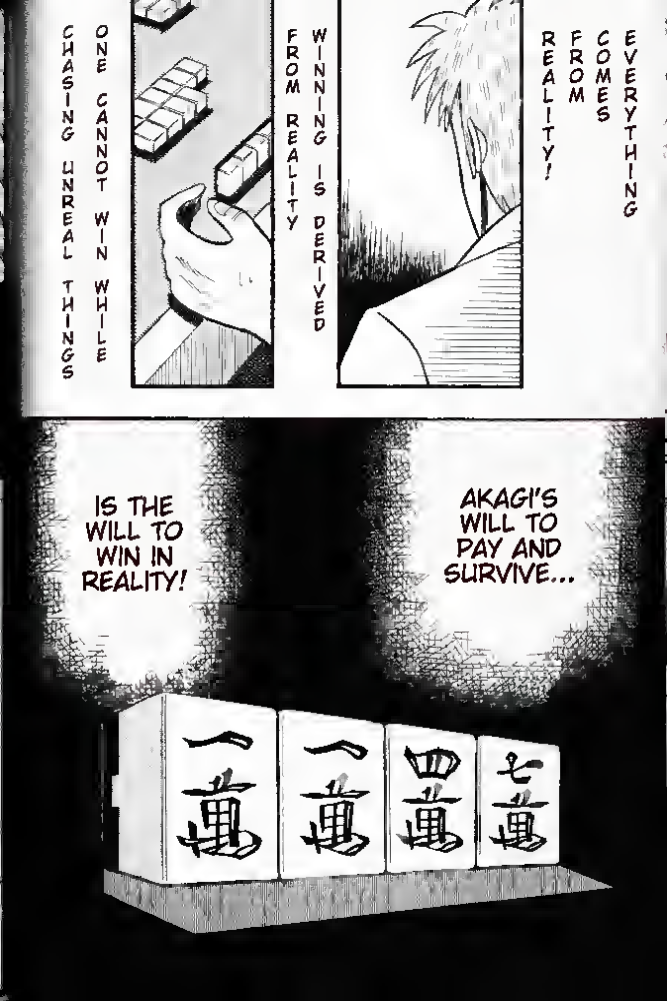
4 MAN...
...
HE GOT IT...?
KU KU...


RON!
PROVED THAT ICHIKAWA'S MAHJONG IS SUPERB
HIS TECHNIQUES ARE BEYOND HUMAN...
IT'S TRUE THAT THE CHASING OF TILES
NO...
THAT MIGHT NOT BE TRUE
ZAWA...
ざわ...
?
HE COULD EVEN BE SAID TO SURPASS ICHIKAWA...
BUT THE LOSER, AKAGI, DID NOT LOSE IN STRATEGY...

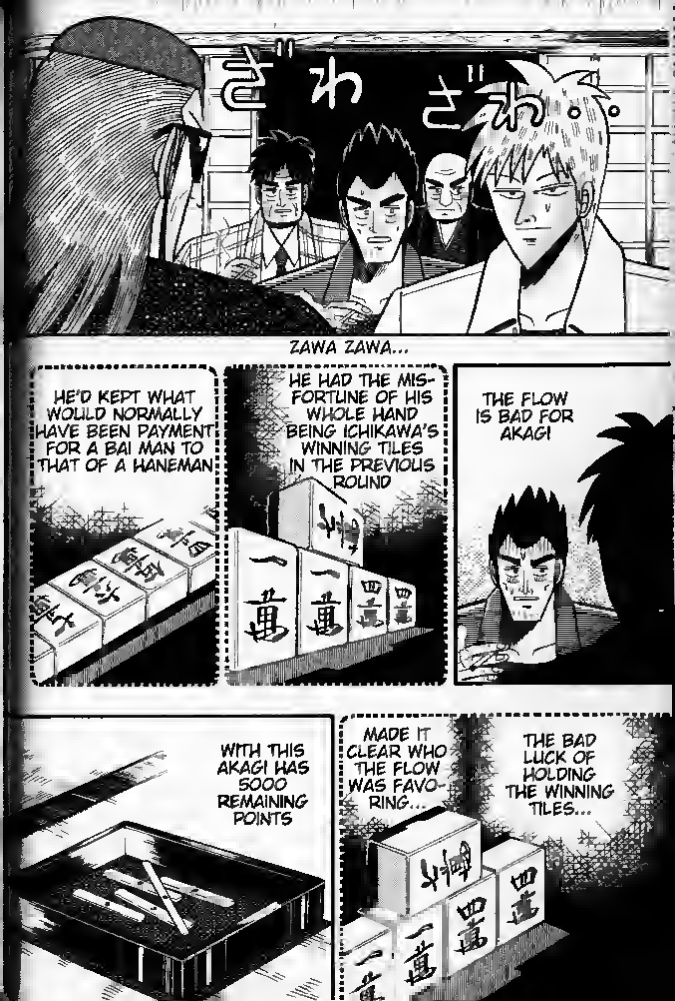
I'VE CAUGHT YOU AT LAST
AKAGI SHIGERU...!
ZAWA... ZAWA...
AAH... IT'S FUTILE
SEEMS LIKE ICHIKAWA IS REALLY UNRIVALED
KU KU KU...
DEALER HANEMAN, 18000

AND ENDED UP WITH THAT 1, 4 MAN WAIT TENPAI
AKAGI AVOIDED ICHIKAWA'S WAITS THIS MATCH
WHAT'S DO YOU MEAN?
...
AND HIT THAT 7 MAN ...
YOU WOULD HAVE REACHED FOR THE 7 MAN ...
IF YOU FEEL THAT THE 1, 4, AND 7 MAN WERE ALL RISKY...
...
YASUOKA-SAN, WHAT WOULD YOU CUT IN THIS CASE?
WHAT ...
AKAGI DIDN'T PURSUE THAT ONE-IN-A-MILLION "IF"
HOW-EVER ...
YOU'LL ALSO WANT TO KEEP YOUR TENPAI IF THERE WAS A ONE-IN-A-MILLION CHANCE YOUR TILE COULD PASS
THE 1, 4 AND 7 MAN WERE ALL EQUALLY RISKY
THAT THOUGHT IS INTENSIFIED BY THE PAINS YOU UNDER-WENT FOR THAT TENPAI

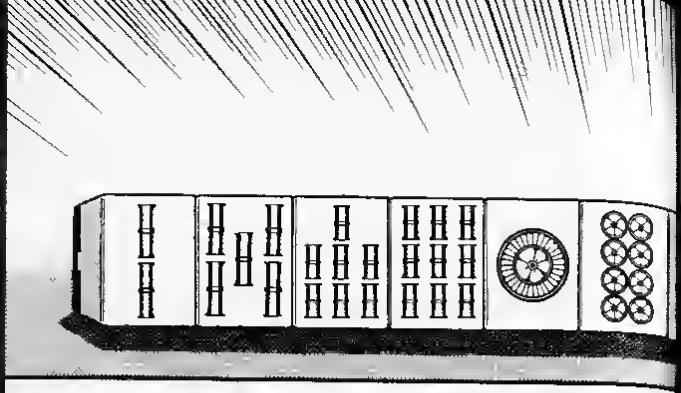

THE DORA WOULD HAVE EXTENDED THAT HAND INTO A BAIMAN
IF HE WENT FOR THAT "IF" AND CUT THE 7 MAN
COULD THEY GIVE UP THAT CHANCE OF PASSING?
AKAGI GAVE IT UP!
HOW COULD ORDINARY PEOPLE HAVE TAKEN THAT INTO ACCOUNT?
OR IF THEY COULD
AH...
AKAGI SURPASSED THAT
HIS CAREFUL CUTTING TURNED THE STICKY SITUATION INTO A FINE PLAY
ZAWA...
...
YOU CAN HEAR AKAGI'S DETERMINATION FROM THAT 7 MAN
IF YOU CHASE AFTER THAT EMPTY "IF" YOU WILL NEVER WIN...

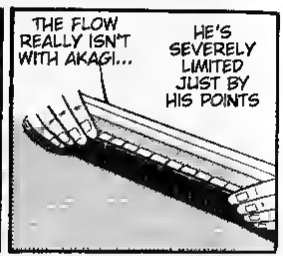

EVERYTHING COMES FROM REALITY!
WINNING IS DERIVED FROM REALITY
ONE CANNOT WIN WHILE CHASING UNREAL THINGS
AKAGI'S WILL TO PAY AND SURVIVE...
IS THE WILL TO WIN IN REALITY!

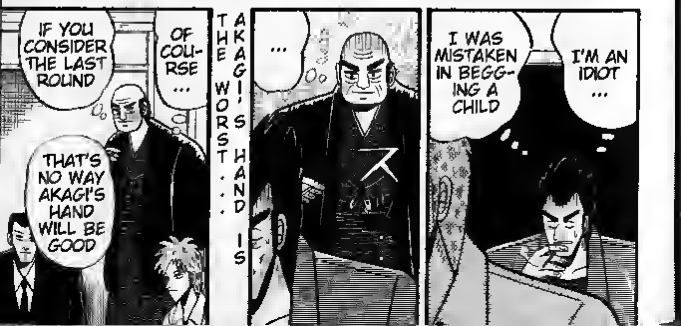
CHAPTER 22: WILD CARD
第22話 暴牌


ざわ ざわ。。
ZAWA ZAWA...
HE'D KEPT WHAT WOULD NORMALLY HAVE BEEN PAYMENT FOR A BAI MAN TO THAT OF A HANEMAN
HE HAD THE MISFORTUNE OF HIS WHOLE HAND BEING ICHIKAWA'S WINNING TILES IN THE PREVIOUS ROUND
THE FLOW IS BAD FOR AKAGI
WITH THIS AKAGI HAS 5000 REMAINING POINTS
MADE IT CLEAR WHO THE FLOW WAS FAVORING...
THE BAD LUCK OF HOLDING THE WINNING TILES...

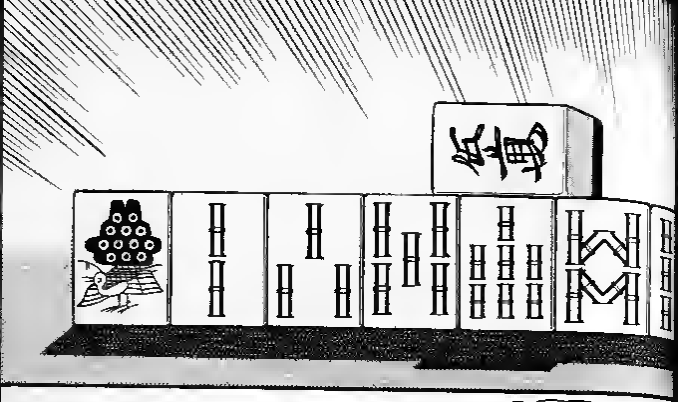
AKAGI ...
I BEG OF YOU
EVERYTHING WILL BE OVER!
IF HE HAS TO PAY ICHIKAWA ONE MORE TIME
HAVE ALWAYS OVERTURNED THAT SORT OF LOGIC
HOW-EVER, YOU
YOU'RE UNDOUBTEDLY A GENIUS...
YOU ALREADY HAD A DIFF-ERENCE IN SKILL. THAT I UNDER-STAND.
IN TERMS OF EXP-ERIENCE, COMPARED TO ICHI-KAWA
AKAGI...!
LET ME SEE JUST ONCE MORE
PLEASE AKAGI ...
THAT MIRA-CULOUS MAHJONG THAT CAN ESCAPE FROM HELL

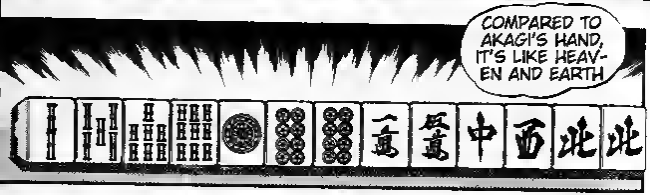


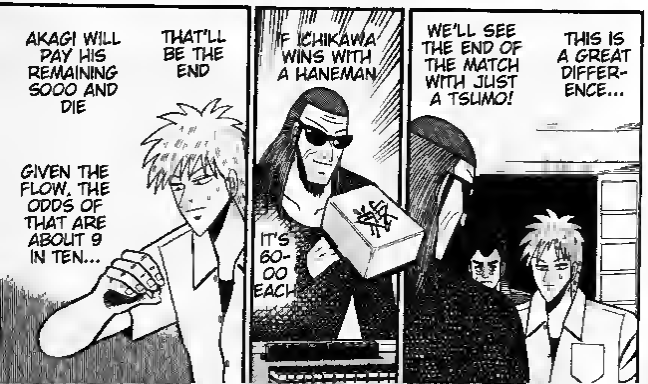



IF YOU CONSIDER THE LAST ROUND
OF COURSE...
THAT'S NO WAY AKAGI'S HAND WILL BE GOOD
THE WORST... AKAGI'S HAND IS
...
I WAS MISTAKEN IN BEGGING A CHILD
I'M AN IDIOT...

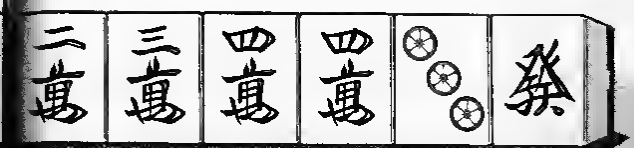
KOKUSHI MUSOU: THE ONE PEOPLE GET EXCITED ABOUT

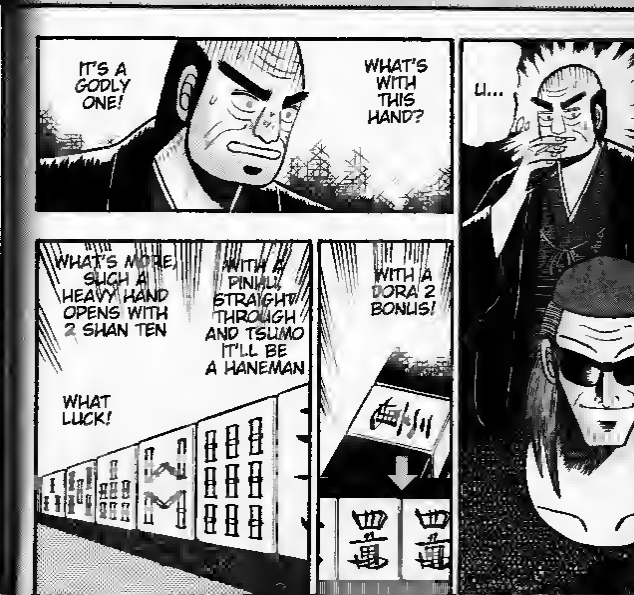


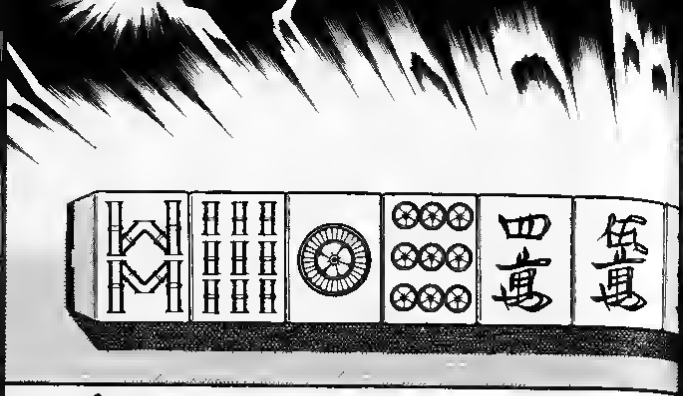


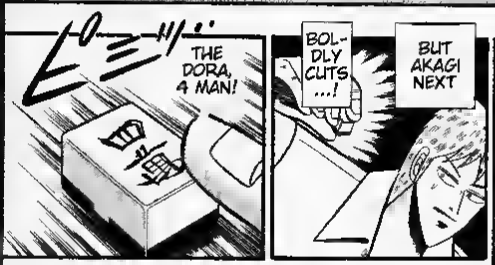

AKAGI WILL PAY HIS REMAINING SOOO AND DIE
THAT'LL BE THE END
GIVEN THE FLOW, THE ODDS OF THAT ARE ABOUT 9 IN TEN...
IF ICHIKAWA WINS WITH A HANEMAN
IT'S 60-00 EACH
WE'LL SEE THE END OF THE MATCH WITH JUST A TSUMO!
THIS IS A GREAT DIFFER-ENCE...

ON THE OTHER SIDE, ICHIKAWA'S HAND




IT'S A GODLY ONE!
WHAT'S WITH THIS HAND?
U...
WHAT'S MORE, SUCH A HEAVY HAND OPENS WITH 2 SHAN TEN
WHAT LUCK!
WITH A PINFU STRAIGHT THROUGH AND TSUMO IT'LL BE A HANEMAN
WITH A DORA 2 BONUS!




THE DORA, 4 MAN!

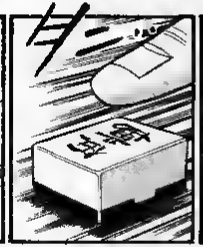
BOLDLY CUTS...!
BUT AKAGI NEXT

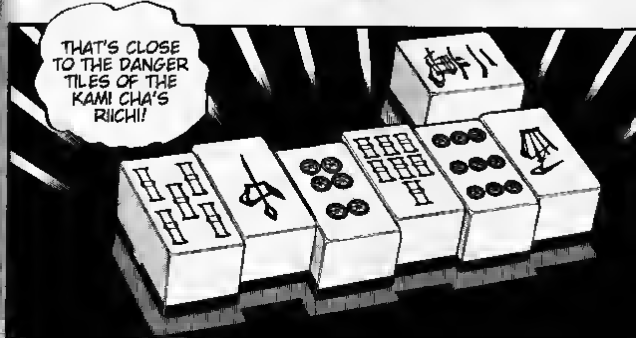
WHAT KIND OF INSANITY IS HE GIVING IN TO AT THE VERY END?

TWO CONSECUTIVE RISKY TILES!

AKAGI'S HAND

5, 5 MAN!?
EH!?

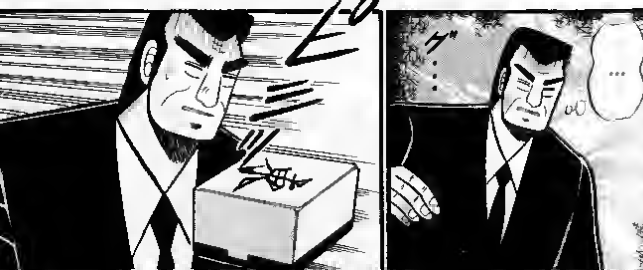



THAT'S CLOSE TO THE DANGER TILES OF THE KAMI CHA'S RIICHI!

...
THIS IS ABSURD ...
ざわ ざわ
...
ZAWA ZAWA...
AKAGI IS DESPERATE WITH THIS BLUFF
I SEE
...
IS ACTUALLY TO FOOL PEOPLE
BUT THAT CRAZY ACTION'S POINT
BY HITTING PEOPLE WITH SUCH AN UNPROFITABLE ATTACK
AT FIRST GLANCE, GIVING UP THE ONLY LIFE IN YOUR TRASHY HAND IS STUPID
IN CUTTING THOSE TWO TILES, AKAGI HAD PREPARED FOR DEATH
THE RIICHI IS LIKELY USING MANZI TILES FOR ITS WAIT

...
IN ORDER TO FOOL PEOPLE!
CUTTING HIS OWN BODY
AKAGI'S BURST OF SPIRIT IS MAKING THE OPPONENTS SUSPICIOUS
WHEN SUSPICION IS NURTURED
ITS HORROR IS BORN ...

AKAGI'S CRAPPY HAND DOESN'T APPEAR CRAPPY AT ALL!


...

...
TRUTH MADE BY AKAGI'S SELF-SACRIFICE!
LIES BECOME TRUTH!

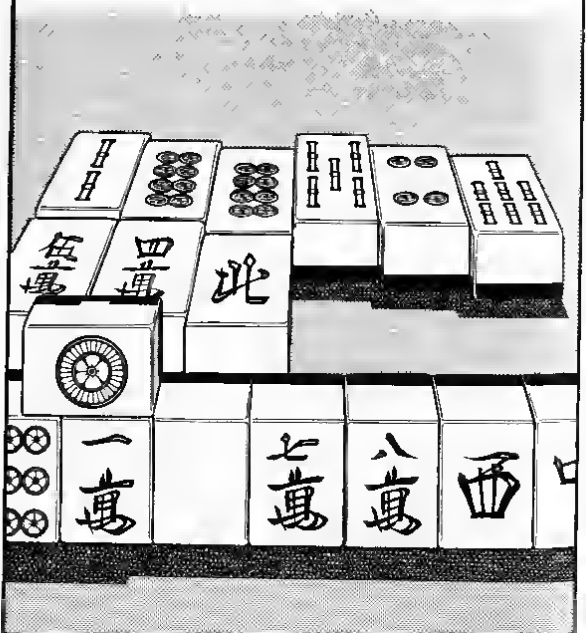
COULD IT BE A KOKUSHI MUSOU?
THE SHIMO CHA IS OUT
WITH THAT ONE CUT AKAGI'S BLUFF CONTROLS THE GAME
AKAGI THEN CUTS THE PEI NEXT
WITH THAT ADDITIONAL STEP OF CONTROL
THE KAMI CHA TENSES

HE DEALS INTO THE KAMI CHA'S R!!CHI
RON!
U...
ZAWA...
...
IM-POS-SIBLE ...
WHY?
ざわ・・

ICHIKAWA, TENPAI!
CUTTING 5 MAN HERE... A TSUMO WOULD MAKE A HANE-MAN
PER-FECT ...
CUT THE 3 MAN!
BUT ICHI-KAWA
WE'LL SETTLE THIS WITH A TSUMO!

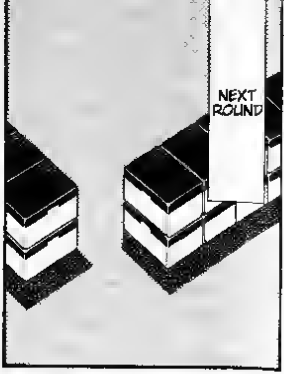
ICHIKAWA RIGHT NOW HOLDS MORE THAN 100000 POINTS
PAYING ANYONE DOESN'T MATTER TO HIM
IT'S A LOGICAL DECISION BY ICHIKAWA
I SEE
FUFU ...
BUT WITH THIS TEMPO BREAK
SUCH A STOP IS EXPECTED OF HIM
THE MATCH'S FLOW MAY CHANGE ...
AKAGI'S REMAINING 5000 WOULD SHOOT BEYOND HIS REACH AGAIN
HE CONSIDERED IF HE COULD MAKE A TSUMO BEFORE THAT
HE MUST HAVE SEEN THAT KOKUSHI AS 90% BLUFF ...
BUT IF IT FORMED
HE JUST WANTS TO PREVENT AKAGI FROM WINNING...
IN THE END, AKAGI'S STARTING HAND
AND DRAWS
STOPPED ICHIKAWA FROM BEING THE DEALER!

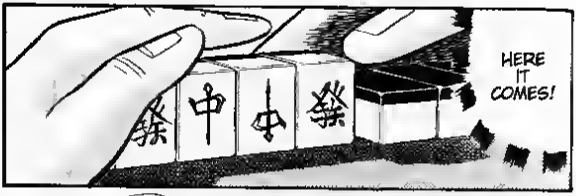
THINKING ABOUT IT, THIS IS A GODLY PLAY THAT LET HIM ESCAPE FROM THE DEPTHS OF DOOM... WITH THIS TRASH HAND!



ざわ・ざわ・
ZAWA... ZAWA...
HE'LL UN-HESITATINGLY CUT HIMSELF ...
TO TURN THE LIES TO TRUTH
THIS IS AKAGI'S MAHJONG
AKAGI'S SPIRIT DRAGS ICHI-KAWA DOWN WITH ALL HIS MIGHT!
AS THE BLOOD DRIPS DROP BY DROP...

THE TILES THAT CAME WITH AKAGI FROM HELL!





HE DRAWS IT!

SAN BAI MAN ...
HON ITSU, CHANTA, 3 AN KOU, CHUN, HATSU, DORA 1
CHANTA: YOUR TRIPLETS/SEQUENCES CONTAIN 1 OR 9 TILES
3 AN KOU: GETTING THREE TRIPLETS BY YOURSELF
THE SAND AT THE BOTTOM OF HELL
IS MAGICAL SAND
KU KU KU ...
GU...
...

WAS TAKEN FROM THE DEMONS!
ZAWA... ZAWA...
WHENEVER HE SURPASSES DEATH, HE GETS A DEMONIC HAND
...
AKAGI'S LUCK?
IS THIS
WHAT KIND OF HAND IS THAT!
WINS ON A TSUMO WITH THAT HAND
FIVE TURNS LATER, AKAGI

それに触れてくると
強運と破滅が
ひっくり返る……
USING
HIS STRONG
LUCK TO
OVERTURN
HIS
RUIN...
コインの
表と裏のように……！
THE
FLIP
SIDE
OF THE
COIN!

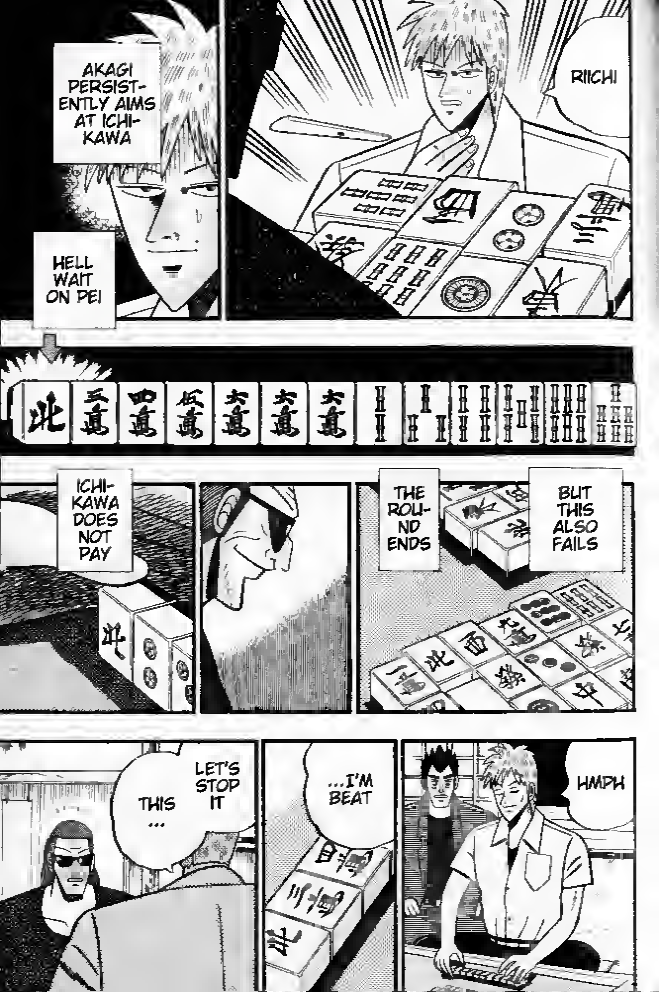
CHAPTER 23: VILLAIN

第23話悪漢

AKAGI VS ICHI-KAWA
BUT WITH THE LAST ROUND'S 29000 POINT SAN BAI MAN
AT ONE POINT AKAGI WAS CHASED DOWN TO 5000 POINTS
SO AS TO STOCK UP...
FIRST HE TAKES 5800 FROM THE SHIMO CHA
HE BECOMES THE DEALER AGAIN

MANGAN 1 REN CHAN
4100 ALL
TSUMO!
ZAWA...
ざわ・・
HE CONTINUES WINNING WITH THE FLOW!
BUT THE PROBLEM OF WINNING LIES AHEAD
SO FAR IT'S BEEN FAVOURABLE
HE ONCE AGAIN REVIVES TO NEAR 50000
AT THIS POINT AKAGI HAS 47100

ICHI-KAWA!
THE UN-SHAKEABLE WALL...
FAIL TO GET HITS ON ICHIKAWA'S BASIC STYLE
AKAGI'S FLASHY WINNING METHODS
HE FAILS TO HIT THE DE-FENSIVE ICHIKAWA
AKAGI TRIES MANY HELL AND VARIABLE WAITS
BUT HE ISN'T COMING CLOSE
HE HAS TO RE-DUCE ICHI-KAWA'S POINTS

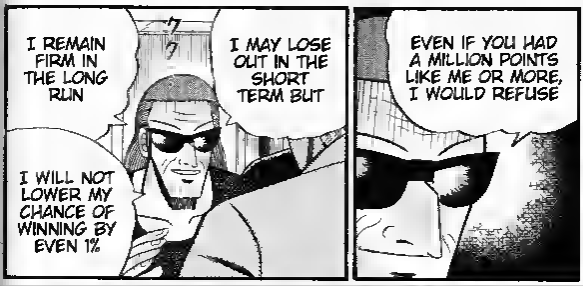

AKAGI PERSIST-ENTLY AIMS AT ICHI-KAWA
RIICHI
HELL WAIT ON PEI
ICHI-KAWA DOES NOT PAY
THE ROU-ND ENDS
BUT THIS ALSO FAILS
THIS ...
LET'S STOP IT
...I'M BEAT
HMPH

HAS BEEN DOING NOTHING BUT ACCU-MULATING...
OUR STOCKS OF POINTS
WON'T STOP
ICHI-KAWA-SAN
WHAT'RE YOU SAYING?
...
I WISH TO CUT THE BACKBONE OF BOTH OUR POINTS
ZAWA...
ざわ..
THE 50K:100K WE HOLD RIGHT NOW WILL BE REDUCED RIGHT DOWN TO 5K:10K
EH?
WE'LL CUT IT BY TEN

I THOUGHT WE WERE SAFE...
...THAT PAINSTAKINGLY ACCUMULATED 50000 POINTS
ざわ…
…
ZAWA... ZAWA...
YOU CAN'T BRING ICHIKAWA'S MILLION POINTS DOWN TO ZERO
IT'S NEAR IMPOSSIBLE
THIS MAY BE INTERESTING
NO...
WHY'RE YOU RISKING IT AGAIN ...
I REFUSE!
THAT SORT OF SINK-OR-SWIM GAMBLE MAY NOT BE BAD
THE QUESTION IS IF ICHIKAWA ACCEPTS

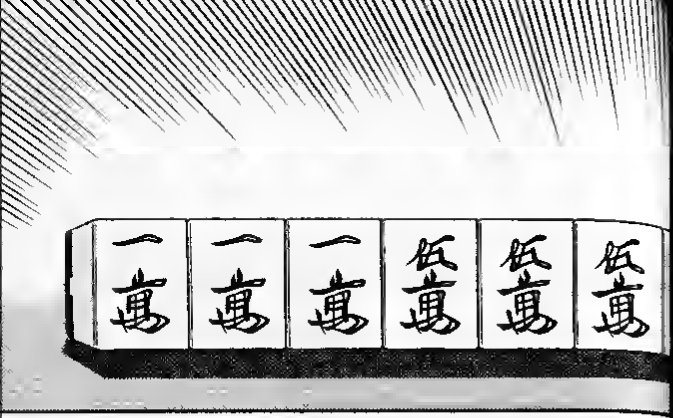
ざわ
ざわ

ZAWA... ZAWA...

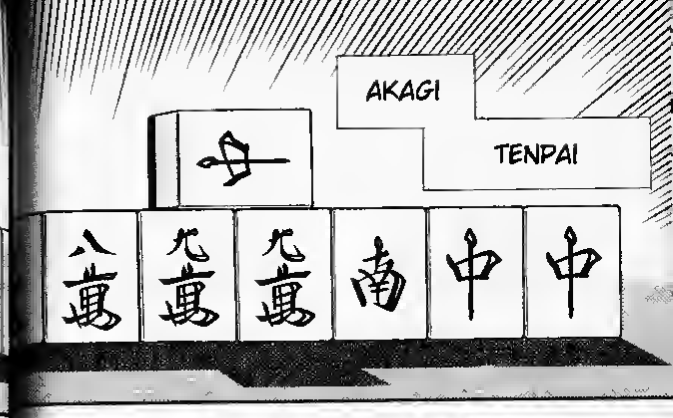

I REMAIN FIRM IN THE LONG RUN
I MAY LOSE OUT IN THE SHORT TERM BUT
I WILL NOT LOWER MY CHANCE OF WINNING BY EVEN 1%
EVEN IF YOU HAD A MILLION POINTS LIKE ME OR MORE, I WOULD REFUSE

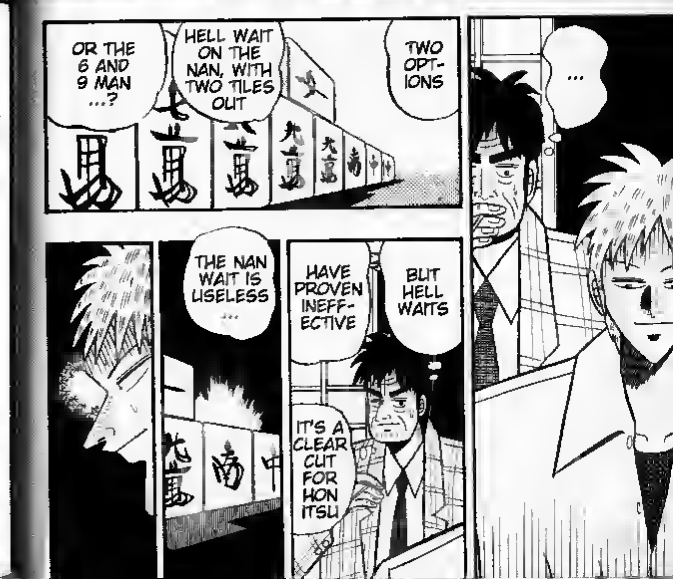
FORCE IT OUT ...
ボソ...
SINCE WORDS WON'T WORK
YOU WON'T LISTEN TO ME, GEEZER ...
I'LL HAVE TO...
FUFU ...
IT CAN'T BE HELPED

TO FORCE THE RATIONAL ICHIKAWA TO CUT DOWN TO A TENTH...
A PLAN ...
THIS IMP IS PLOTTING SOMETHING AGAIN
FOR-CE IT OUT?
AKAGI REN CHAN DEALER
9TH TURN
AS USUAL, THE FLOW IS GOOD



AKAGI CHOOSES THE 6 AND 9 MAN WAIT
11TH TURN
WELL, HE CAN'T DO ANY-THING ELSE
IT'S ORD-INARY ...


AKAGI
TENPAI

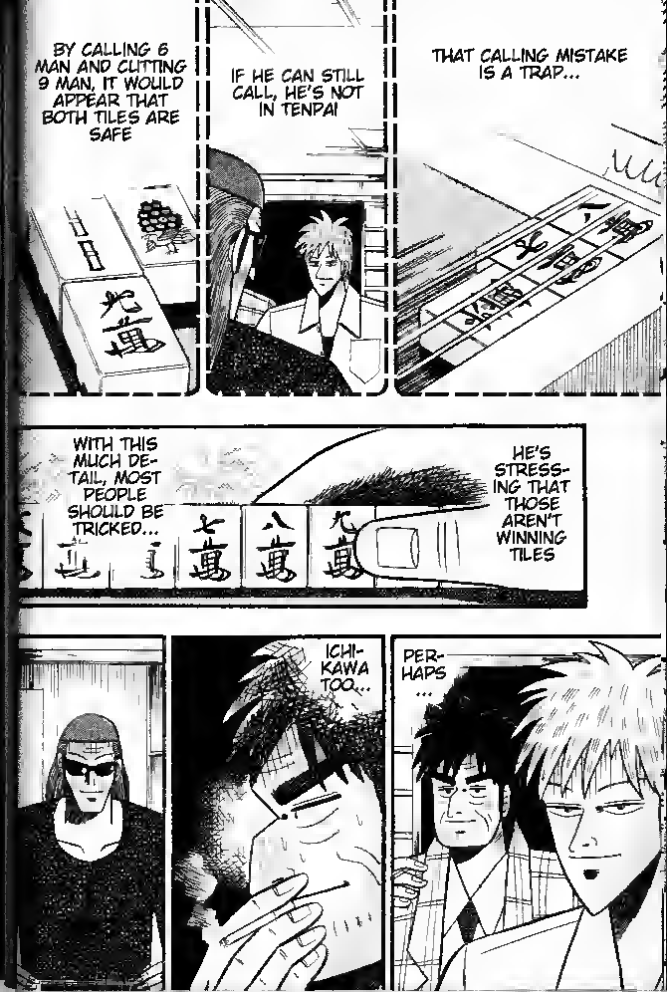

OR THE 6 AND 9 MAN ...?
HELL WAIT ON THE NAN, WITH TWO TILES OUT
TWO OPT-IONS
...
THE NAN WAIT IS USELESS ...
HAVE PROVEN INEFF-ECTIVE
BUT HELL WAITS
IT'S A CLEAR CUT FOR HON ITSU

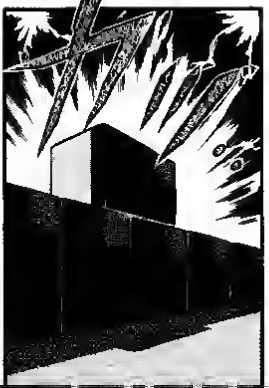
RIICHI
HOW ABOUT IT?
SHOULD YOU CHASE HIM?
THAT ...
AKAGI'S HAND
AKAGI DOES NOT CHASE
HE'S AIMING FOR A TSUMO
ON THE 12TH TURN, THE KAMICHA CUTS A 6 MAN

AKAGI'S WINNING TILE!
HE MOVES!
CHI!
AKAGI DOES NOT CLAIM IT
BUT ...
EH?

HE CUTS THE 9 MAN FOR THE 6 MAN
A FURI TEN CHANGE
ZAWA... ZAWA...
ざわ・ざわ
IT MARKS THE START OF AKAGI'S KILLING OF ICHIKAWA
AT FIRST IT SEEMS POINTLESS BUT
AKAGI UNEXPECTEDLY OBEYS
HMPH
TAKE IT BACK
CALLING 6 MAN AND CUTTING 9 MAN, WE DON'T ALLOW THAT SWITCHING
THAT'S NOT ALLOWED
WAIT, YOU
EH?

AND THE 7 AND 8 MAN ARE RETURNED TO HIS HAND
THE CUT 9 MAN
AND THEN HE DRAWS
THE 6 MAN GOES BACK TO THE KAMI CHA'S POOL
...
AND CUTS IT
AKAGI'S AIM!
I SEE IT
THAT'S IT!
...


BY CALLING 6 MAN AND CUTTING 9 MAN, IT WOULD APPEAR THAT BOTH TILES ARE SAFE
IF HE CAN STILL CALL, HE'S NOT IN TENPAI
THAT CALLING MISTAKE IS A TRAP...
WITH THIS MUCH DETAIL, MOST PEOPLE SHOULD BE TRICKED...
HE'S STRESSING THAT THOSE AREN'T WINNING TILES
ICHIKAWA TOO...
PERHAPS ...



ICHIKAWA KNEW...

WRONG!

ICHIKAWA'S HAND
三萬
四萬
六萬
七萬
八萬
九萬
發
發
發
北
西
...
KU KU ...
KEE KEE ...
THE FLOW IS WITH HIM...
I HAVE TO BE DEF-ENSIVE
AKAGI
ICHIKAWA
THE SAFEST TILE IS ...
THE FOURTH XIA...
THIS IS 100% SAFE
北
西
THE XIA ...
IS UP TO NO GOOD
THIS EVIL LITTLE FIEND
FUFU ...
IT'S THE MOST DANGER-OUS TILE
IN THIS CASE ...
八萬
九萬
I CAN'T CUT THIS 9 MAN
IT'S BEEN USED FOR AGES
THAT TRICK'S ANCIENT

THAT'S THE ONE, OLD MAN!
EH?
IM-POS-SIBLE ...
THAT WAS THE FOURTH XIA
THAT DEF-INITELY WAS...
I-IS IT REALLY A XIA?
Y...
YES ...
ZAWA... ZAWA...
ざわ..
ざわ..
...
...

I DON'T KNOW DESPITE WATCHING FROM BEHIND..
W... WHY...
...
IT WAS 6 AND 9 MAN JUST NOW...
THE KAMI CHA'S 6TH TURN'S XIA HAS BEEN SWITCHED WITH THE 9 MAN!
...
HE TOOK IT!
WHEN HE WAS RETURNING THE CALLED TILE...

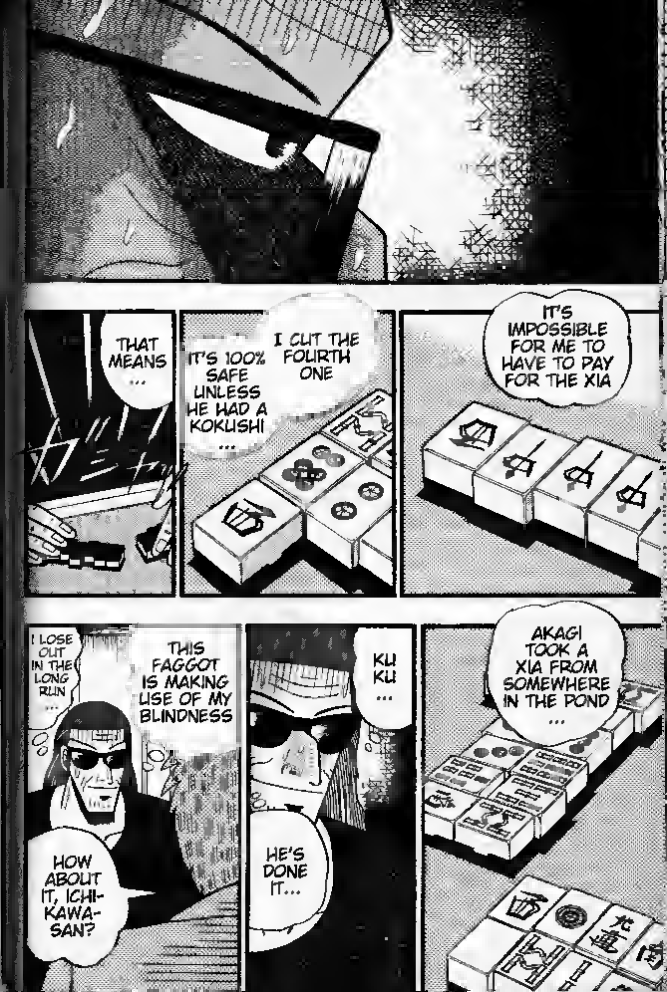
THIS BRAT ...
IF HE USES THIS AS A PATH OF ESCAPE, WHO CAN TELL HOW THE MATCH WILL CHANGE?
HE'S USING ICHIKAWA'S BLINDNESS
CONFIRMING THE CLI TILE WOULD TAKE A LOT OF EFFORT
IS UP TO ABSURD THINGS AGAIN!
THE "FORCING IT OUT" ...
HOW ABOUT IT, ICHI-KAWA-SAN...
KU KU ...

THE ENDLESS BATTLE OR THE 10TH SHORT FIGHT
WHICH DO YOU ACCEPT?
...
...
WHAT A VILLAIN!
AT THIS POINT, IF HE SAYS NO,
HE'LL JUST KEEP ON...
A BORN GENIUS!

AKAGI'S NATURE IS CERTAINLY EVIL!
HE'S THE GREATEST EVIL AMONG ALL VILLAINS!

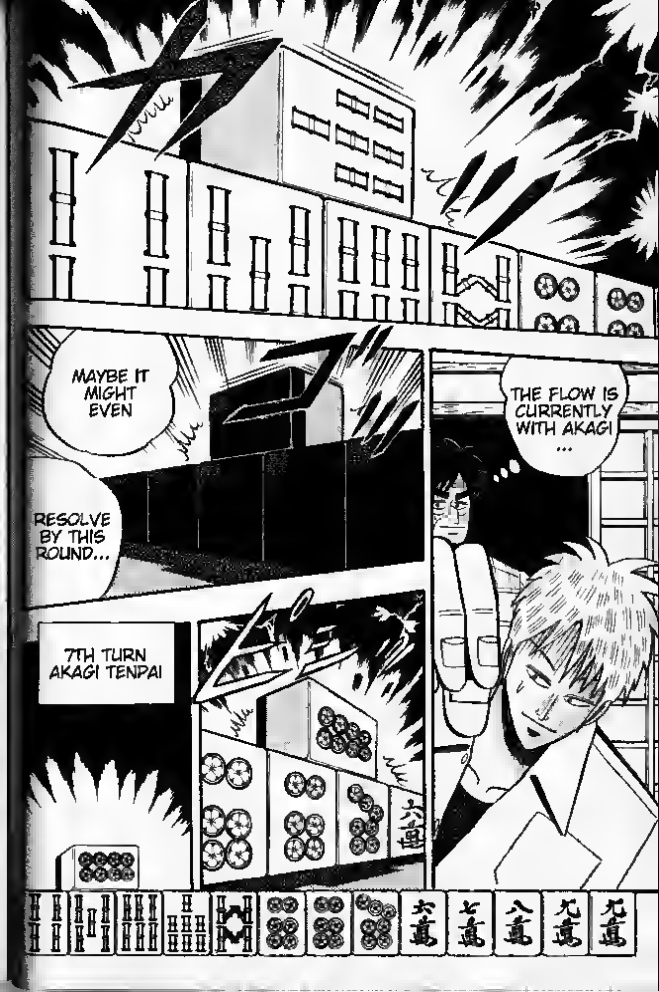
CHAPTER 24: LIVE TILE

第24話生牌

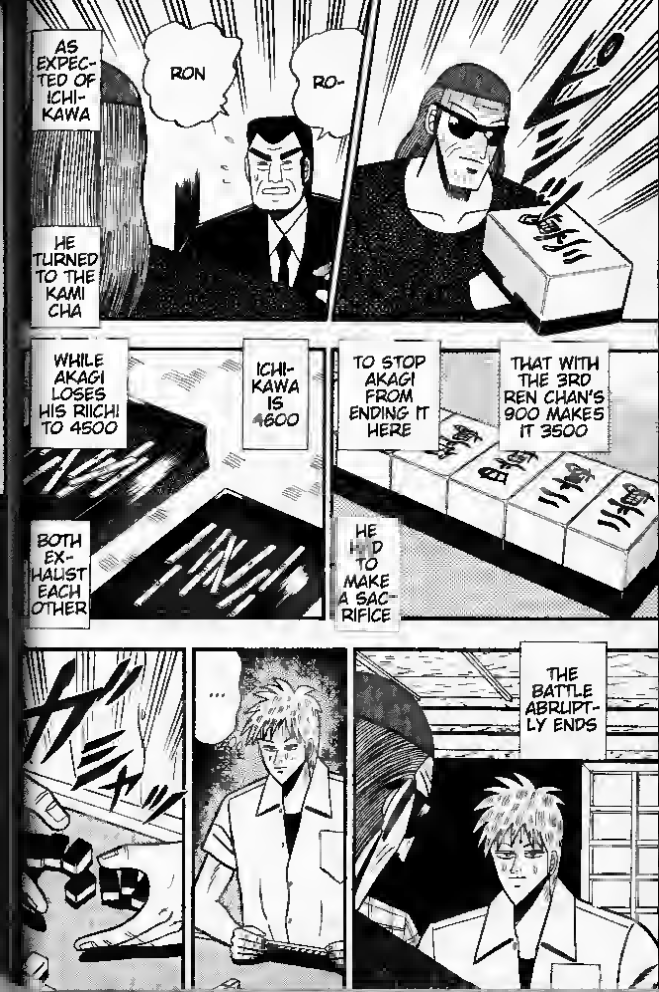

THAT MEANS ...
IT'S 100% SAFE UNLESS HE HAD A KOKUSHI ...
I CUT THE FOURTH ONE
IT'S IMPOSSIBLE FOR ME TO HAVE TO PAY FOR THE XIA
I LOSE OUT IN THE LONG RUN ...
THIS FAGGOT IS MAKING USE OF MY BLINDNESS
HOW ABOUT IT, ICHI-KAWA-SAN?
KU KU ...
HE'S DONE IT...
AKAGI TOOK A XIA FROM SOMEWHERE IN THE POND ...

FINE...
THE ENDLESS BATTLE OR THE 1/10TH SHORT FIGHT
WHICH DO YOU ACCEPT?
ICHI-KAWA-SAN...
ICHI-KAWA ...
I'LL TAKE IT...
...
THAT'S IT...
I UNDER-STAND, ICHIKAWA-SAN...
KU KU ...

ざわ
ざわ
ZAWA ZA
...
AND NOW THIS SINK-OR-SWIM ...
I'D THOUGHT THAT WE'D FINALLY REACHED SAFETY
THE CHANCES OF WINNING OR LOSING ARE HIGH ...
BOTH HAVE CUT TO ABOUT 10K POINTS
THE ONE WHO GAINS IS MORE LIKELY AKAGI
BUT...
THAT'S ...
-WA...
AND ICHIKAWA'S 81700 TO 8700
AKAGI'S 55700 TO 5500
BOTH PLAYERS REBATTLE WITH 1/10TH OF THEIR POINTS...
ZAWA...
IT CAN GO EITHER WAY...
...WHAT IS GOING TO BECOME OF IT...

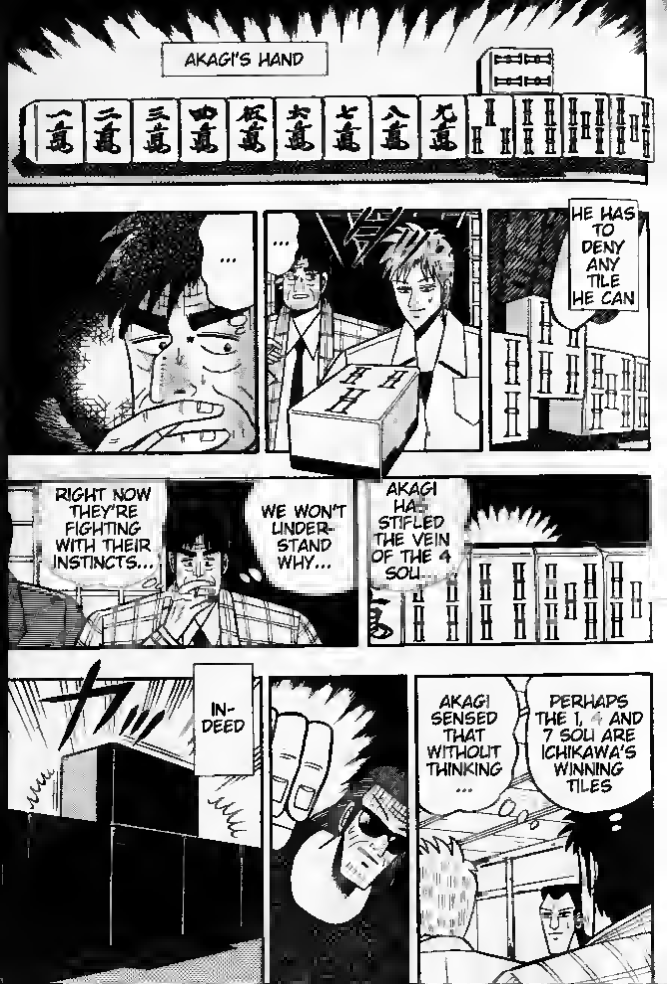

MAYBE IT MIGHT EVEN
RESOLVE BY THIS ROUND...
THE FLOW IS CURRENTLY WITH AKAGI ...
7TH TURN AKAGI TENPAI

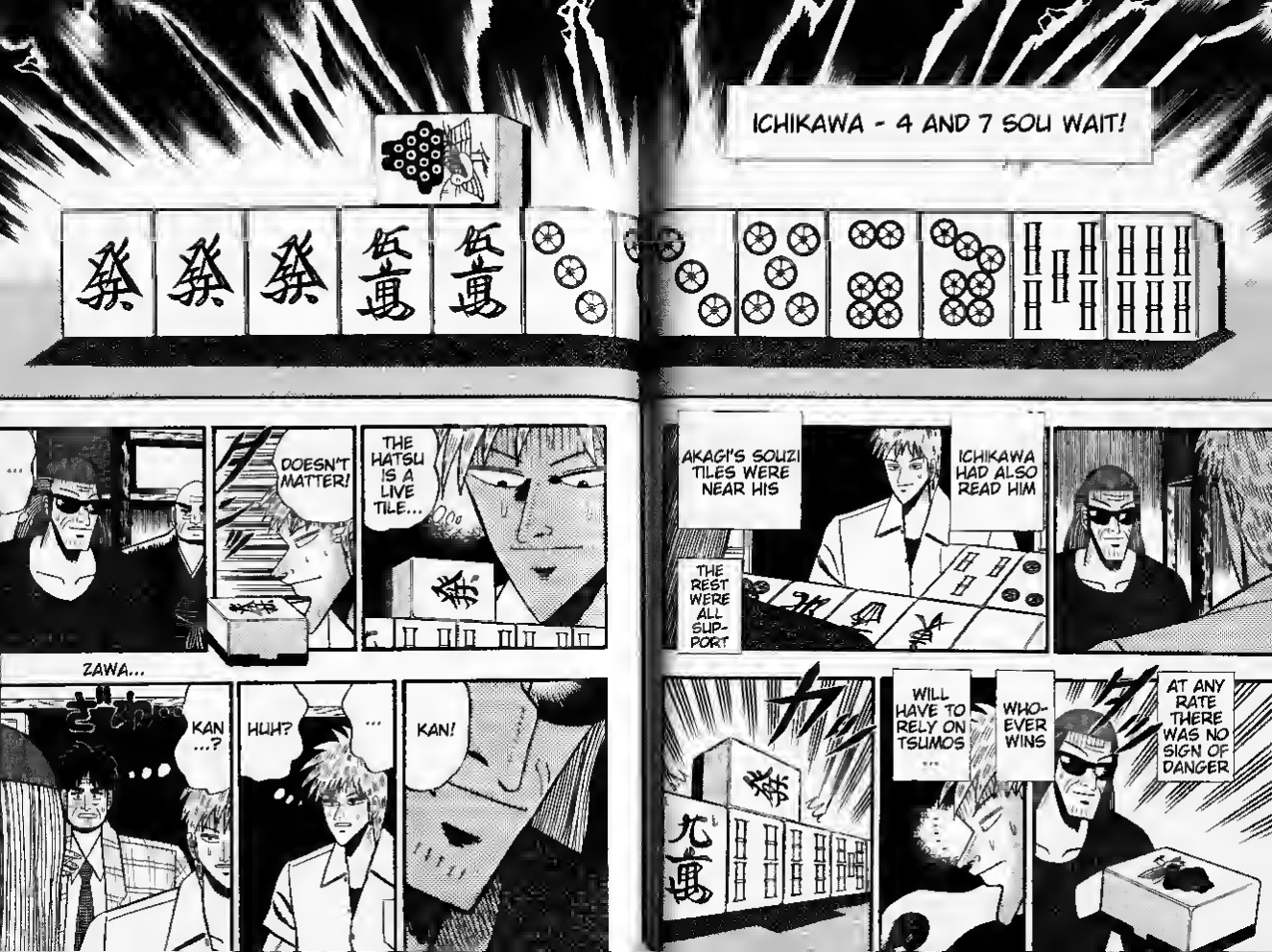
RIICHI!
LUCKY ...
ざわ
ZA WA...
...
Ooo
IF HE BOOSTS IT WITH A TSUMO
A DORA WOULD MAKE IT A DEALER HANEMAN
A GOOD HAND AMONG HANDS ...
THAT WAS DENIED ...
HOW-EVER
IF HE GETS IT, WE WIN!

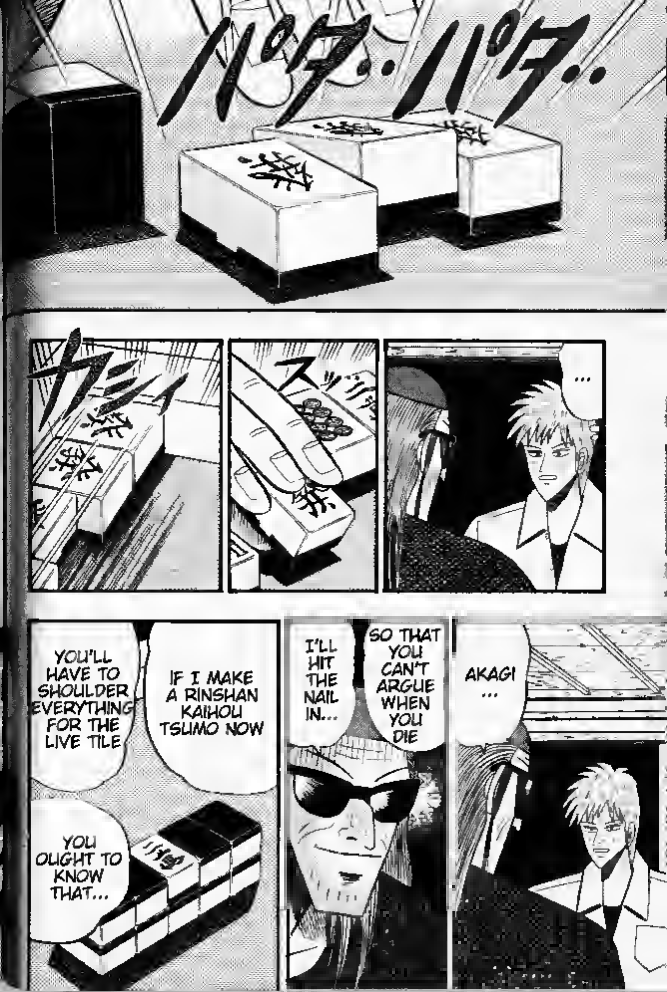

AS EXPECTED OF ICHI-KAWA
HE TURNED TO THE KAMICHA
RON
RO-
WHILE AKAGI LOSES HIS RIICHI TO 4500
ICHI-KAWA IS 4600
BOTH EXHAUST EACH OTHER
TO STOP AKAGI FROM ENDING IT HERE
THAT WITH THE 3RD REN CHAN'S 900 MAKES IT 3500
HE HAD TO MAKE A SACRIFICE
...
THE BATTLE ABRUPTLY ENDS

NOW BOTH HAVE CUT TO 5000
NEXT ROUND
JUST A 5200 HAND WOULD END IT
ATT-ACKS!
AT THIS VERY LAST ROUND, AKAGI
HE CAN'T YIELD!
HE DOE-SN'T YIELD

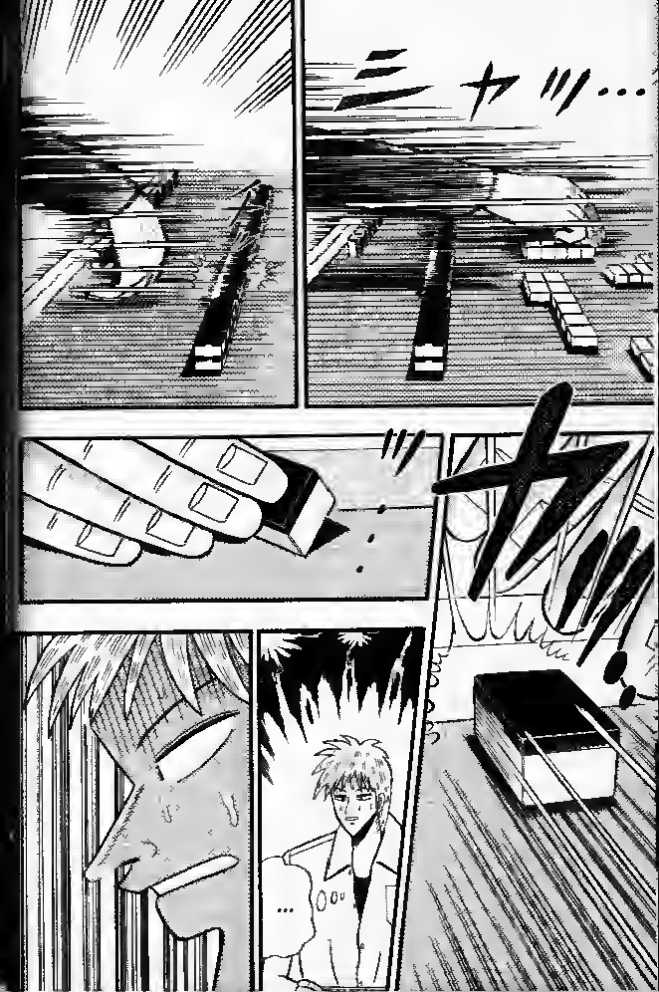
FOR THE WIN!
RUSH-ING..
BUT ICHIKAWA IS ALSO
NEITHER CAN YIELD IN ORDER TO WIN
AT THIS STAGE
BUT NEITHER CAN NO MATTER WHAT THEY DO
BOTH ARE TRYING TO GRASP THE FLOW
VS AKAGI'S TALENT
ICHIKAWA'S YEARS OF EXPERIENCE

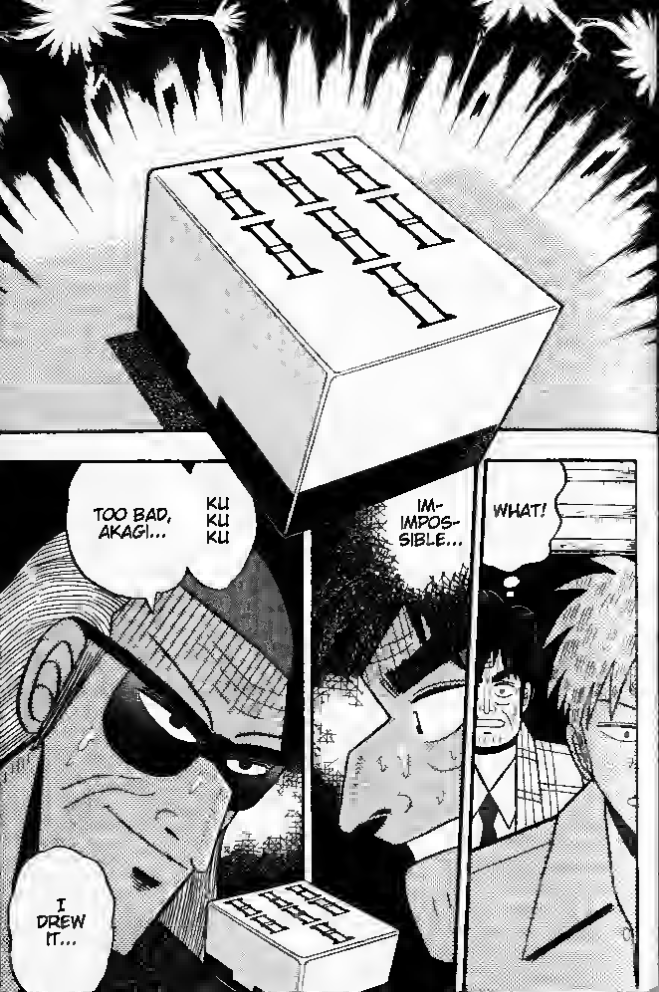

AKAGI'S HAND
一萬
二萬
三萬
四萬
伍萬
六萬
七萬
八萬
九萬
...
...
HE HAS TO DENY ANY TILE HE CAN
RIGHT NOW THEY'RE FIGHTING WITH THEIR INSTINCTS...
WE WON'T UNDER-STAND WHY...
AKAGI HA-STIFLED THE VEIN OF THE 4 SOU...
IN-DEED
AKAGI SENSED THAT WITHOUT THINKING ...
PERHAPS THE 1, 4 AND 7 SOU ARE ICHIKAWA'S WINNING TILES

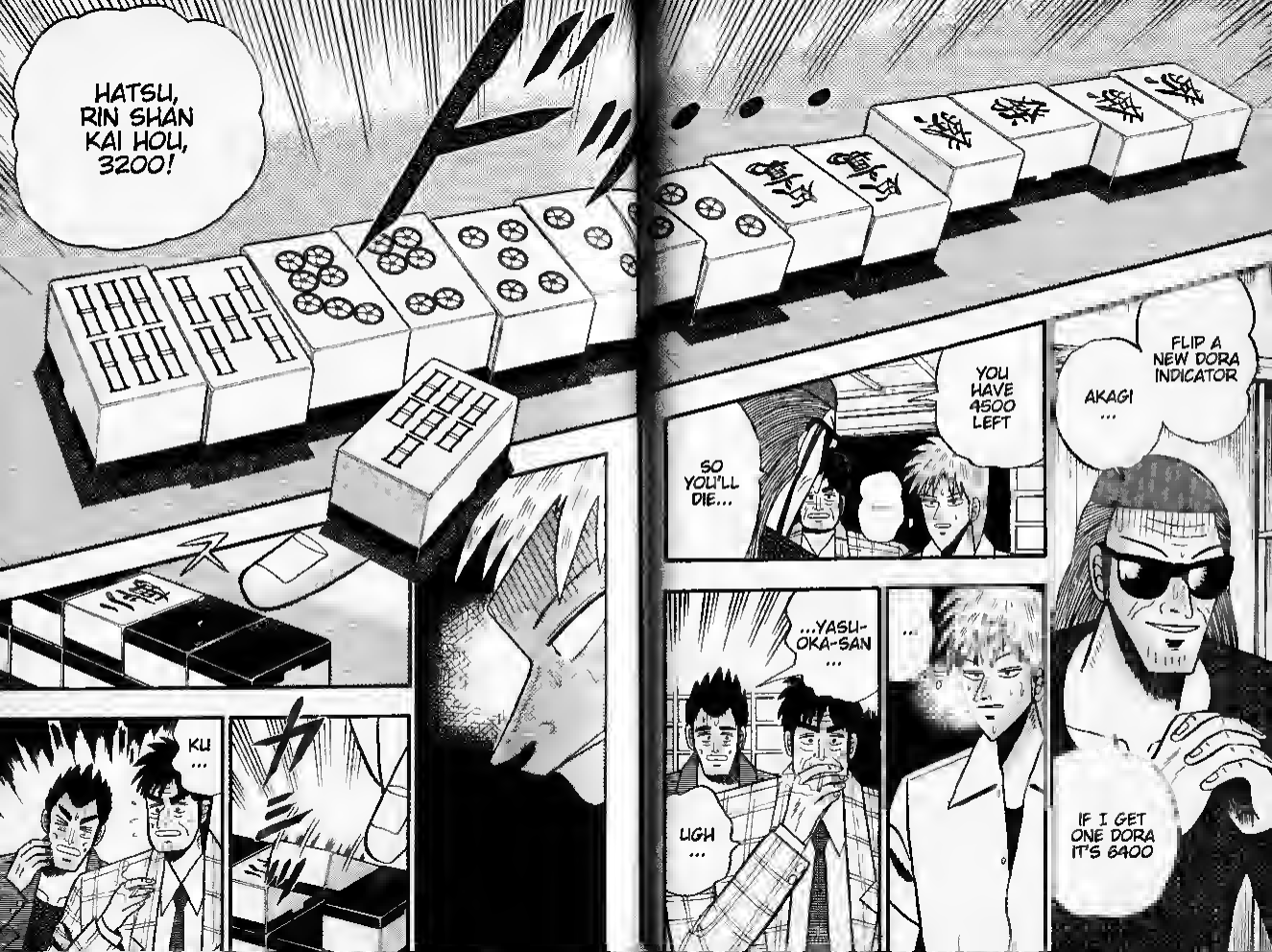

ICHIKAWA - 4 AND 7 SOU WAIT!
...
DOESN'T MATTER!
THE HATSU IS A LIVE TILE...
ZAWA...
KAN ...?
HUH?
...
KAN!
AKAGI'S SOUZI TILES WERE NEAR HIS
ICHIKAWA HAD ALSO READ HIM
THE REST WERE ALL SUP-PORT
WILL HAVE TO RELY ON TSUMOS ...
WHO-EVER WINS
AT ANY RATE THERE WAS NO SIGN OF DANGER


パタ..パタ..
...
AKAGI ...
I'LL HIT THE NAIL IN...
SO THAT YOU CAN'T ARGUE WHEN YOU DIE
IF I MAKE A RINSHAN KAIHOU TSUMO NOW
YOU'LL HAVE TO SHOULDER EVERYTHING FOR THE LIVE TILE
YOU OUGHT TO KNOW THAT...

KU KU ...
BUT THAT KIND OF THING IS...
IT'S TRUE THAT YOU'LL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE DAIMIN KAN
IS THAT TRUE?
ざわ...
IT SEL-DOM HAP-PENS
YEAH ...
YEAH ...
DAIMIN KAN: YOU ALREADY HAVE 3 AND SOMEONE CUTS THE 4TH
ZAWA...
THERE'S STILL THAT LITTLE BIT OF CHANCE...
STILL ...
I'M TELLING YOU JUST IN CASE!


ミャッ…
…


WHAT!
IM-
IMPOS-
SIBLE...
KU
KU
KU
TOO BAD,
AKAGI...
I
DREW
IT...

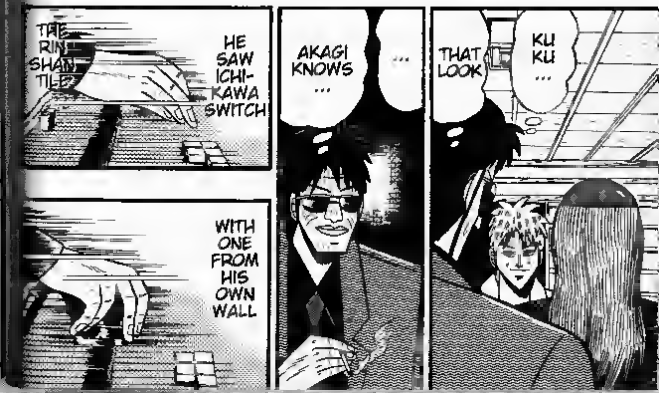

HATSU, RIN SHAN KAI HOU, 3200!
KU ...
...
...YASU-OKA-SAN ...
UGH ...
...
YOU HAVE 4500 LEFT
SO YOU'LL DIE...
AKAGI ...
FLIP A NEW DORA INDICATOR
IF I GET ONE DORA IT'S 8400

NO DORA ADDED!
THE NEW DORA IS 1 PIN!
LUC-KY...
HAA...
WHEW...
...
THERE WON'T BE A FUTURE...
BY NOT BEING IN TENPAI NEXT TIME
WE WILL REALLY GO DOWN...
AKAGI HAS ONLY 1300 LEFT
HOW-EVER...
..AT ANY RATE, WE MAY HAVE SURVIVED

ICHIKAWA, THE NEW DORA IS 1 PIN
IS THAT SO...
KU KU ...
AS EXPECTED OF A DEMON ...
YOUR ACCURSED POWER KNOWS NO LIMITS
カミナッ
IN THE NEXT ROUND...
BUT... THAT'S IT
YOU SHALL DIE
...YOUR TRICKS HAVE BEEN DECENT
BUT YOU'VE MET YOUR MATCH ...
AKA-GI...
ZAWA...
ざわ・・
EH?
?
WHAT'S GOING ON?

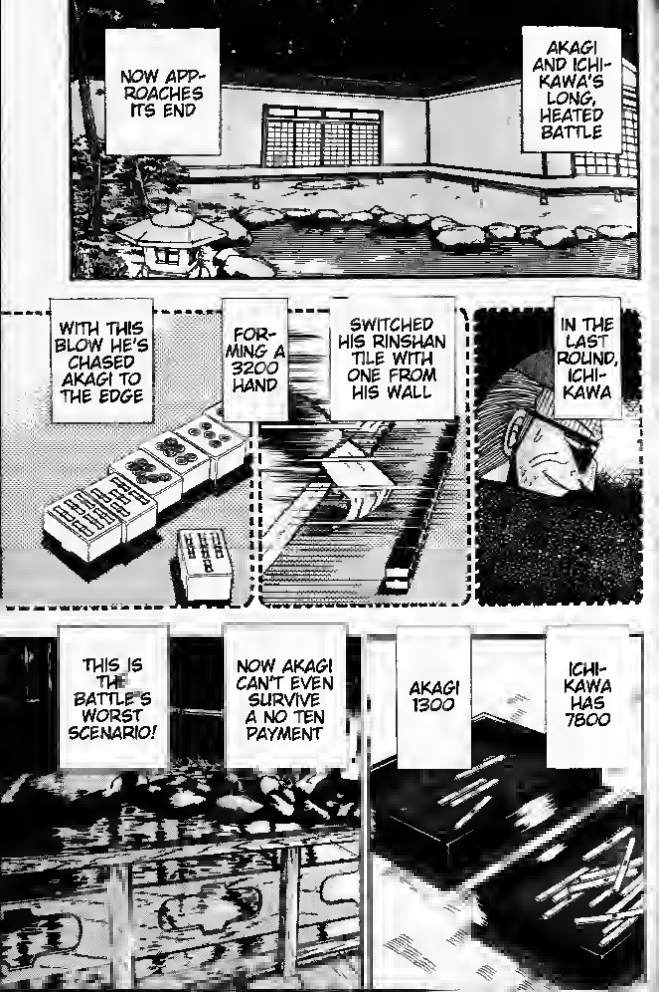
ざわざわ…

ZAWA... ZAWA...


THE RINSHAN TILE?
HE SAW ICHI-KAWA SWITCH
WITH ONE FROM HIS OWN WALL
AKAGI KNOWS ...
...
THAT LOOK
KU KU ...

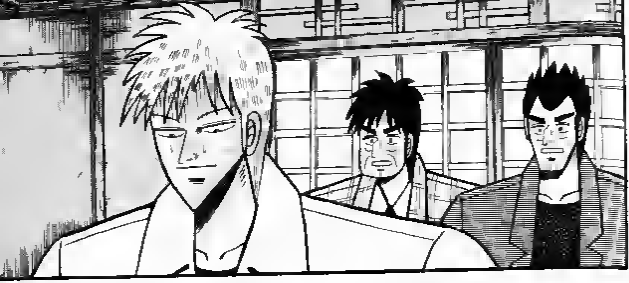
THEY CAN FREELY HAVE A ONE SHOT TSUMO
COMBINED WITH THE SLIDING TRICK...
CAN MEMORISE THE TILES ON THE WALL THEY MADE
PEOPLE OF ICHI-KAWA'S CLASS
THIS TRICK IS IMPOSSIBLE TO RESTRICT OR STOP
AND TO TOP OFF
BECAUSE ...
THERE'RE 18 TILES READY TO CHOOSE FROM
THUS BETWEEN THE DRAWN TILE AND THE 17 WALL TILES
UNSTOP-PABLE!
ICHIKAWA WILL NOW RETURN BACK TO YOU
THE TRICK THAT DUG YOU FROM YOUR GRAVE
YOU GAVE US AN EXCUSE TO CHEAT...
NOW ICHI-KAWA GRABS THEM
AKAGI STOLE THE WINNING TILES LAST TIME...
TO SUPPORT OUR SHORT-TERM BATTLE
ICHI-KAWA'S HAND IS NEXT TO THE WALL
DUR-ING THE SWITCH
NO ONE CAN GRAB IT

ICHIKAWA'S WALL STAYS INTACT
IF DURING NEXT ROUND'S ARRANG-EMENT
AKAGI WILL DIE!
IT GOES WITHOUT SAYING
SINCE YOU'D NEEDED TO DO THAT
THAT ICHIKAWA FAR SUR-PASSES AKAGI!
THIS TIME, SURELY, WITH NO ROOM FOR MERCY
DIE!

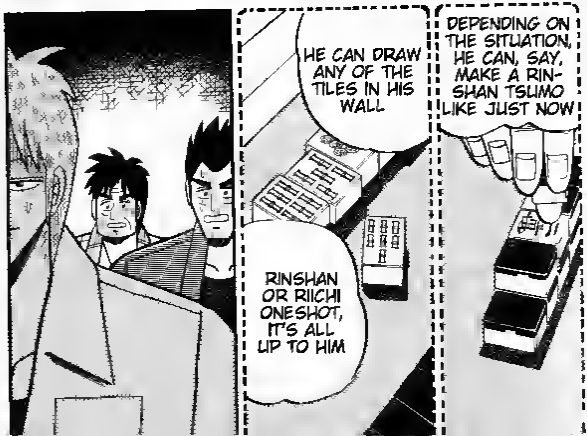

NOW APP-
ROACHES
ITS END
AKAGI
AND ICHI-
KAWA'S
LONG,
HEATED
BATTLE
WITH THIS
BLOW HE'S
CHASED
AKAGI TO
THE EDGE
FOR-
MING A
3200
HAND
SWITCHED
HIS RINSHAN
TILE WITH
ONE FROM
HIS WALL
IN THE
LAST
ROUND,
ICHI-
KAWA
THIS IS
THE
BATTLE'S
WORST
SCENARIO!
NOW AKAGI
CAN'T EVEN
SURVIVE
A NO TEN
PAYMENT
AKAGI
1300
ICHI-
KAWA
HAS
7800

CHAPTER 25 PURSUIT

第25話猛追



EVERY-THING ON HIS WALL
ICHIKAWA CAN IDEN-TIFY
YES ...
CHEAT-ING?


HE CAN DRAW ANY OF THE TILES IN HIS WALL
DEPENDING ON THE SITUATION, HE CAN, SAY, MAKE A RIN-SHAN TSUMO LIKE JUST NOW
RINSHAN OR RIICHI ONESHOT, IT'S ALL UP TO HIM

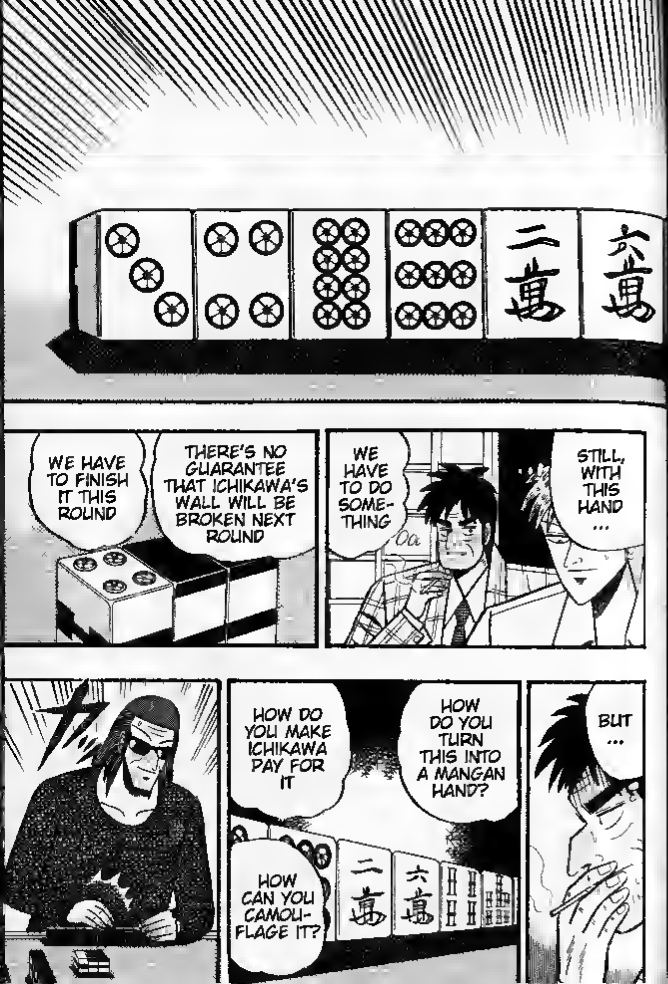
CAN YOU WIN?
D-DOING THAT KIND OF THING ...
ざわ ざわ...
ZAWA ZAWA...
KU KU ...
4TH TURN ...?
HE CAN WIN BY THE 4TH TURN!
IF WE CAN BREAK ICHIKAWA'S WALL
PERHAPS ...DURING NEXT ROUND'S DICE ROLL
IT DEPENDS
THAT MAN WILL NOT BE RELENT-LESS IN THIS LAST MATCH

AT THAT POINT, IT MEANS THE HEAVENS HAVE CHOSEN THEM
IT'LL BE A REVE-LATION
T-THAT'S ...
AKAGI ...!
KU KU ...
HOW-EVER
PERHAPS... IF ICHIKAWA DOESN'T HAVE A WALL... IF IT'S ONLY TWO OR THREE...
IF HE CAN'T SWAP HIS TILES
...
THE TIDES WILL TURN...
I BELIEVE IT'LL REVERSE TO MY SIDE
THE HEAVENS ...
WILL CHOOSE ME...

I WILL WIN!
ZAWA...
ざわ...
...
THIS'S BECOME RIDICU-LOUS
FIRST ICHIKAWA THROWS A SEVEN
OUR LIVES DEPEND ON A DIE ROLL
THEN THE OPPO-SITE, AKAGI,
WE CAN'T DO ANY-THING
...
HIS FATE LIES IN HIS HANDS
WILL ROLL A SEC-OND TIME
THE WORST THING TO HAPPEN IS IF HE GETS A TWO...
THE TILES WILL START FROM ICHIKAWA'S KAMI CHA
AND HIS WALL WILL REMAIN ...

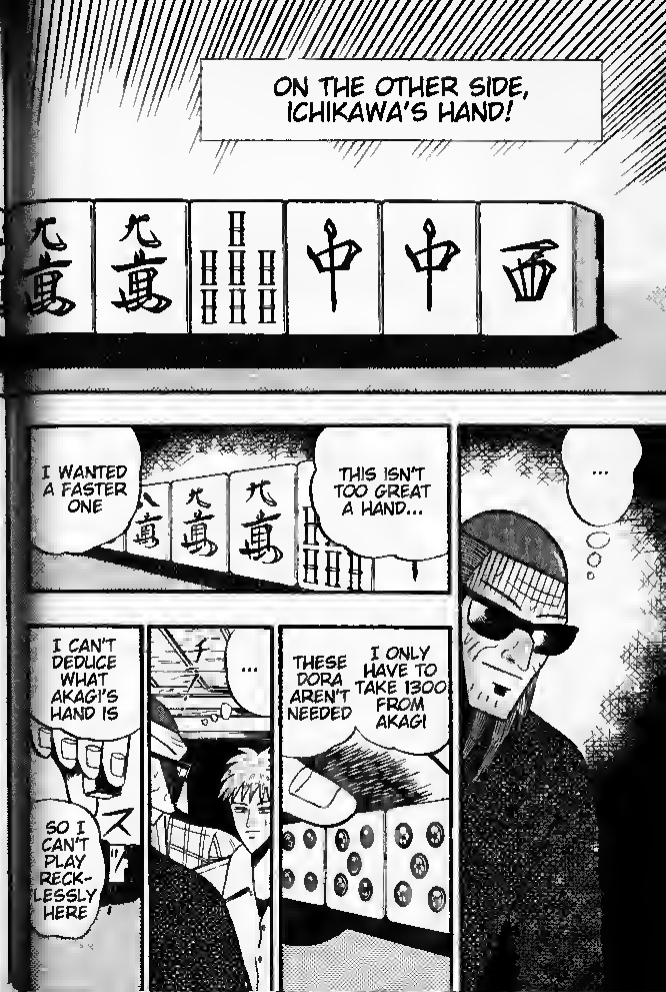
SHIMO CHA!
HIS SHIMO CHA IS IDEAL
IF IT'S POSSIBLE
ICHIKAWA'S WALL WILL BE COMPLETELY BROKEN
コロ
コロ
UG...
TWO IS THE WORST!!
コラ...

ICHI-KAWA!
THREE!
THREE IS IDEAL
THANK GOOD-NESS
WE CAN WIN ...
... YES
IF WE GET A STRONG HAND HERE...
AKAGI STLL HAS SOME LUCK
SO
ICHIKAWA HAS ONLY THREE LEFT IN FRONT OF HIM
WITH ONE BEING THE DORA INDI-CATOR, HE CAN ONLY SWITCH UP TO TWO TILES


WE HAVE TO FINISH IT THIS ROUND
THERE'S NO GUARANTEE THAT ICHIKAWA'S WALL WILL BE BROKEN NEXT ROUND
WE HAVE TO DO SOME-THING
STILL, WITH THIS HAND ...
HOW DO YOU MAKE ICHIKAWA PAY FOR IT
HOW DO YOU TURN THIS INTO A MANGAN HAND?
HOW CAN YOU CAMOU-FLAGE IT?
BUT ...

AKAGI'S HAND!
THIS IS THE WORST HAND
JUST WHEN I THOUGHT THAT...

IF MY WALL IS INTACT NEXT ROUND, I CAN FINISH THIS IN AN INSTANT
I CAN'T BE HASTY
I NEED TO TIDE OVER THIS ROUND
4TH TURN
IT IS CRUCIAL THAT I DON'T HAVE TO PAY FOR HIS HAND
TO DESTROY MY DOMINANCE HE'LL HAVE TO KILL ME WITH A MANGAN DIRECT HIT ON MY 7800
EVEN IF AKAGI "WINS" HERE, HE WON'T WIN


ON THE OTHER SIDE, ICHIKAWA'S HAND!
I WANTED A FASTER ONE
THIS ISN'T TOO GREAT A HAND...
...
I CAN'T DEDUCE WHAT AKAGI'S HAND IS
SO I CAN'T PLAY RECK-LESSLY HERE
...
THESE DORA AREN'T NEEDED
I ONLY HAVE TO TAKE 1300 FROM AKAGI

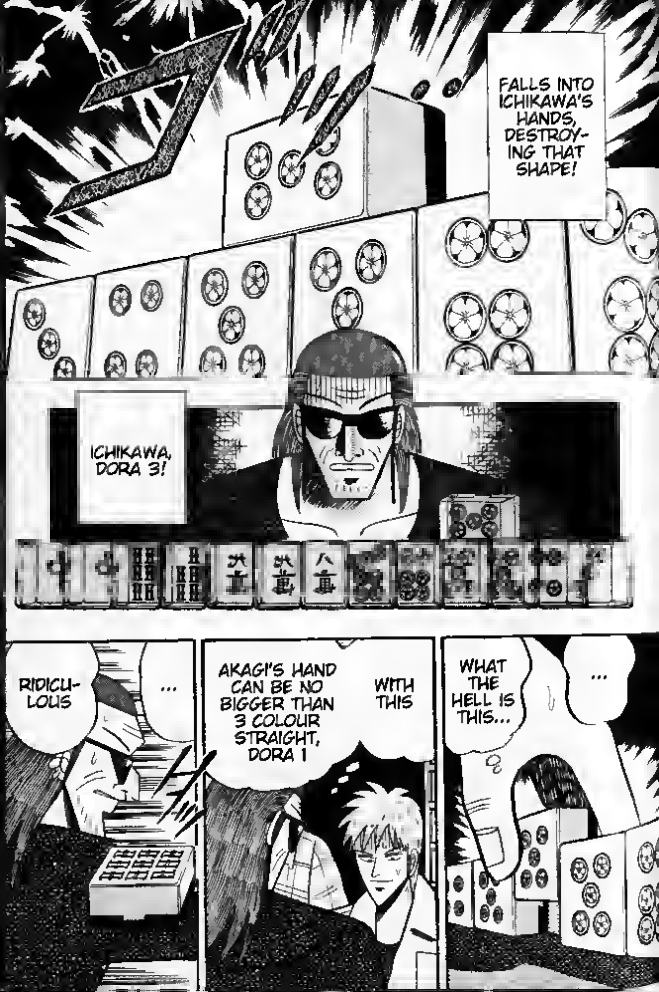
CHI!
THAT CALL ...
...
PINZI HON ITSU OR CHIN ITSU...
THAT'S HIS FOUND-ATION
AND ALSO ...
THE CUT TILE ...

BECAUSE THEY CAN'T FORM BIG HANDS...
BUT I DON'T HAVE TO BE AFRAID OF ANY TRICKS ANYWAY
I WON'T BE ABLE TO READ HIM 100%
OF COURSE, THAT CALL COULD BE A TRICK
AT LEAST I'VE GOT A GRIP OF HIS COLOUR
EH...?
CHI!
6TH TURN
カミ

ZAWA... ZAWA...

BUT THAT'S ALL TO IT
AT ANY RATE, HE SEEMS TO BE IN WINNING SHAPE
THIS MEANS AKAGI'S HAND IS QUITE BAD
HE ISN'T PLAYING FOR A MANGAN
SAN-SHOKU ?
IT ISN'T A SINGLE SUIT...

SANSHOKU (DOUJUN) THREE COLOUR (STRAIGHT)

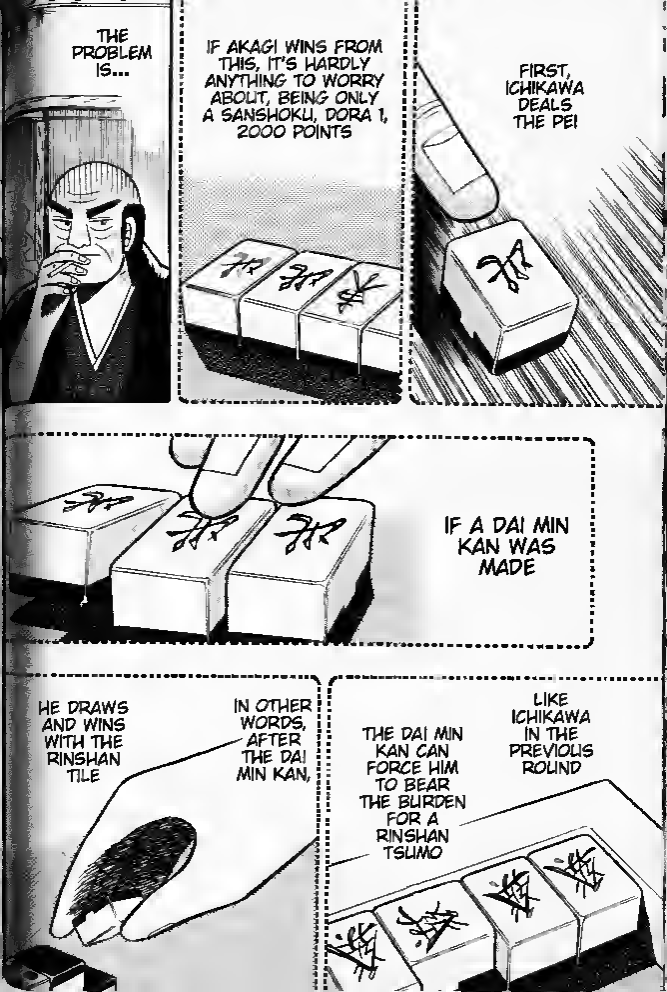

FALLS INTO ICHIKAWA'S HANDS, DESTROY-ING THAT SHAPE!
ICHIKAWA, DORA 3!
RIDICU-LOUS
...
AKAGI'S HAND CAN BE NO BIGGER THAN 3 COLOUR STRAIGHT, DORA 1
WITH THIS
WHAT THE HELL IS THIS...
...

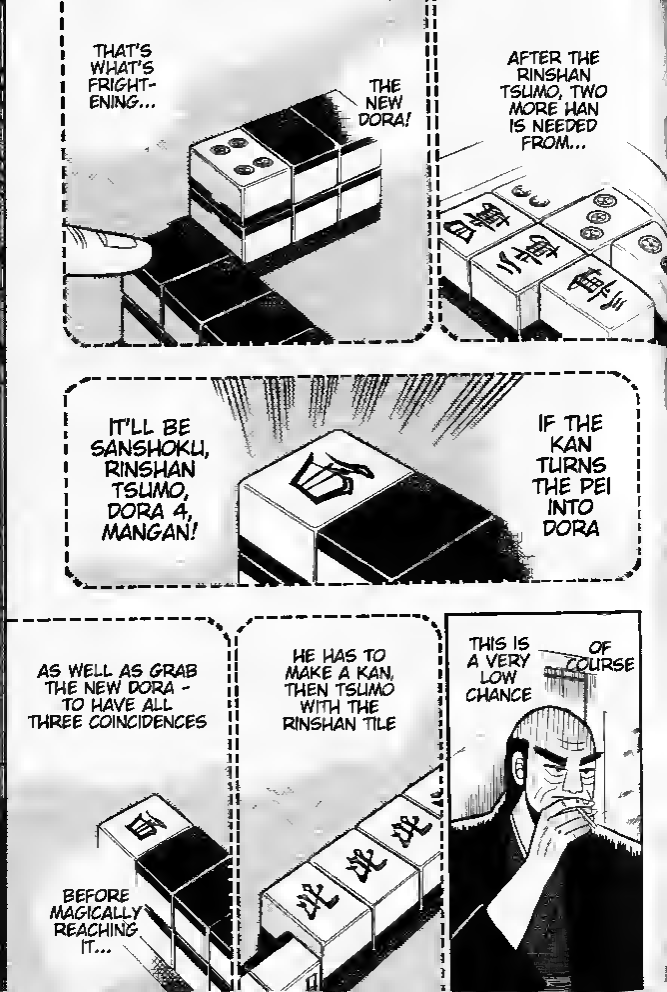
I WAS WORRIED ABOUT A MANGAN HAND
I THOUGHT HE'LL BE MORE AMBITIOUS
9 MAN
I'LL ATTACK ...
I HAVE NOTHING TO FEAR
NOW THAT I KNOW HE WON'T REACH THAT
PON!

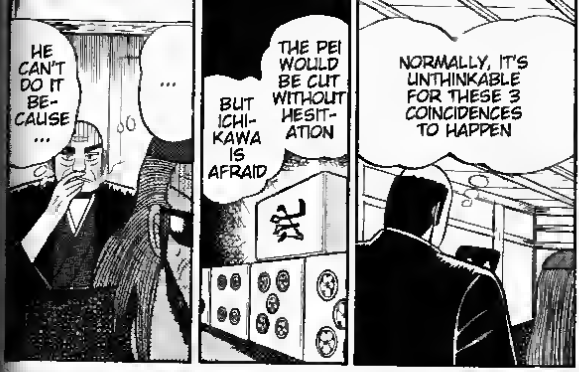
ICHIKAWA TENPAI!
PON
AT LAST ...
ON AN IDEAL 2, 5, 8 PIN WAIT!
THE TIME HAS COME FOR AKAGI TO SAY HIS PRAYERS!
MY DRAWS ARE GOOD
I'LL KILL HIM WITH A TSU...
UGH...

A LIVE TILE, PEI!
ZAWA...
ざわ..
?
KU ...

...
THE PEI ISN'T ACTIVE
IT WON'T CHANGE AKAGI'S LIMIT OF SANSHOKU, DORA 1
WHAT IS HE THINK-ING...
EH?
THERE'S NOTHING TO CUTTING THAT PEI
THAT'S UNDER NORMAL CIRCUM-STANCES
ALL HE'LL PAY IS 2000...
BUT
UNDER NORMAL CIRCUMSTANCES, THIS PEI IS NO-THING TO FEAR
I SEE
...
HE'LL HAVE TO PAY FOR A MANGAN!
IF HE DEALS THE PEI AND THREE COINCIDENCES OVERLAP...


THE PROBLEM IS...
IF AKAGI WINS FROM THIS, IT'S HARDLY ANYTHING TO WORRY ABOUT, BEING ONLY A SANSHOKU, DORA 1, 2000 POINTS
FIRST, ICHIKAWA DEALS THE PEI
IF A DAI MIN KAN WAS MADE
HE DRAWS AND WINS WITH THE RINSHAN TILE
IN OTHER WORDS, AFTER THE DAI MIN KAN,
THE DAI MIN KAN CAN FORCE HIM TO BEAR THE BURDEN FOR A RINSHAN TSUMO
LIKE ICHIKAWA IN THE PREVIOUS ROUND


THAT'S WHAT'S FRIGHT-ENING...
THE NEW DORA!
AFTER THE RINSHAN TSUMO, TWO MORE HAN IS NEEDED FROM...
IT'LL BE SANSHOKU, RINSHAN TSUMO, DORA 4, MANGAN!
IF THE KAN TURNS THE PEI INTO DORA
AS WELL AS GRAB THE NEW DORA - TO HAVE ALL THREE COINCIDENCES
HE HAS TO MAKE A KAN, THEN TSUMO WITH THE RINSHAN TILE
THIS IS A VERY LOW CHANCE
OF COURSE
BEFORE MAGICALLY REACHING IT...


NORMALLY, IT'S UNTHINKABLE FOR THESE 3 COINCIDENCES TO HAPPEN
THE PEI WOULD BE CUT WITHOUT HESITATION
BUT ICHIKAWA IS AFRAID
...
HE CAN'T DO IT BECAUSE ...

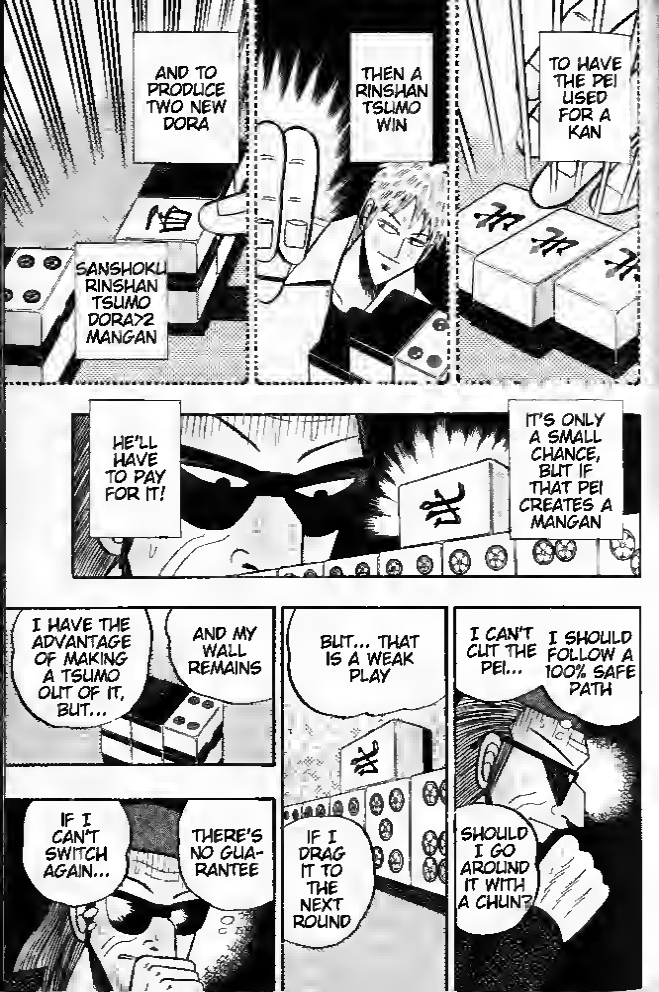
HE CAN'T DO IT BECAUSE ...
OF AKAGI SHIGERU!

CHAPTER 26: VICTORY
第26話勝利

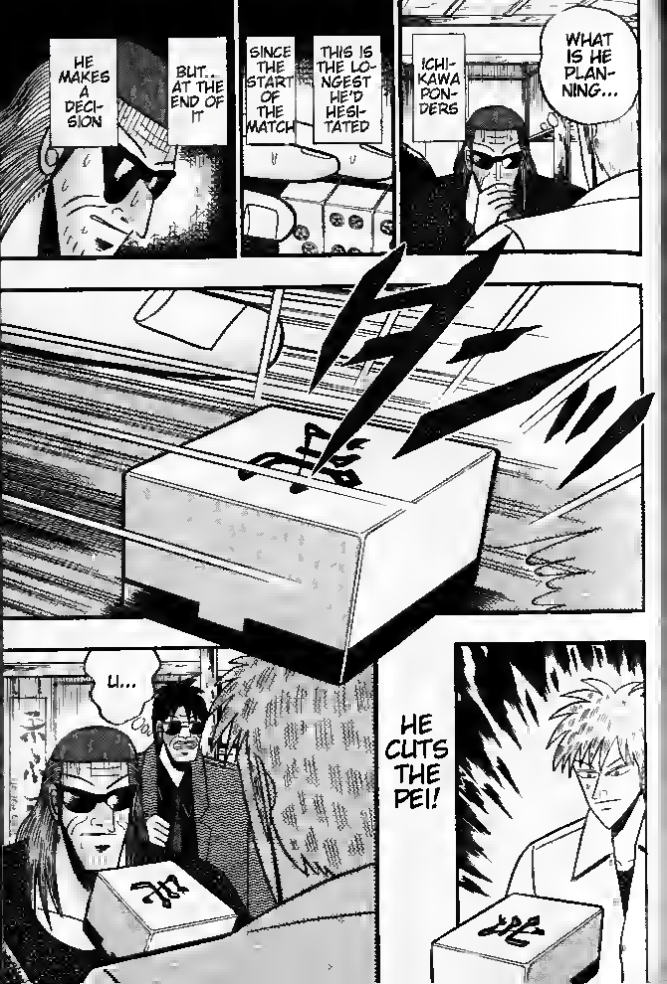
ざわ・
ざわ・・
ZAWA... ZA
AND IN THIS ROUND HAS THE FLOW WITH HIM
ICHIKAWA CAN SWITCH TILES WITH THOSE IN HIS OWN WALL
ON THE OTHER HAND, AKAGI IS GOING FOR ONLY A THREE COLOUR STRAIGHT
BUT ...
NO ONE COULD SEE HOW TO BUDGE HIM OFF THE THRONE
ICHI-KAWA WAS STRO-NGER
AKAGI WAS IN TROU-BLE..

ICHIKAWA VS. AKAGI
WA...
ICHIKAWA HAS 7800, WHILE AKAGI HAS 1300
THE RULES ARE THAT WHOEVER PAYS ALL HIS POINTS LOSES
IS CO-MING FULL CIRCLE
THE TWO'S FIERCE FIGHT
CHUN, DORA 3... WITH THIS HAND AKAGI WILL DIE WITH A TSUMO
IN THIS ROUND ICHIKAWA GAINED AN IDEAL TENPAI BY THE TENTH TURN
IT'S A SU-DDEN DEATH SITUA-TION...
ポン

ICHIKAWA HAS BEEN CORNERED!
...
NORMALLY, LOSING FROM THAT PEI WOULD ONLY COST HIM 2000
ICHIKAWA WON'T DIE FROM THE PAY-MENT
BUT IF 3 COINCI-DENCES OCCUR
HIS 7800 WILL PERISH...
AND THE THING PRESSU-RING HIM
IS THE LIVE TILE, PEI!

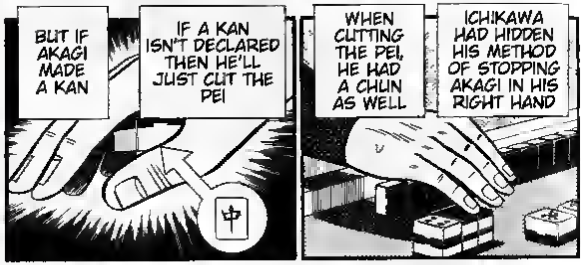

AND TO PRODUCE TWO NEW DORA
THEN A RINSHAN TSUMO WIN
TO HAVE THE PEI USED FOR A KAN
SANSHOKU RINSHAN TSUMO DORA>2 MANGAN
HE'LL HAVE TO PAY FOR IT!
IT'S ONLY A SMALL CHANCE, BUT IF THAT PEI CREATES A MANGAN
I HAVE THE ADVANTAGE OF MAKING A TSUMO OUT OF IT, BUT...
AND MY WALL REMAINS
BUT... THAT IS A WEAK PLAY
I CAN'T CUT THE PEI...
I SHOULD FOLLOW A 100% SAFE PATH
IF I CAN'T SWITCH AGAIN...
THERE'S NO GUARANTEE
IF I DRAG IT TO THE NEXT ROUND
SHOULD I GO AROUND IT WITH A CHUN?

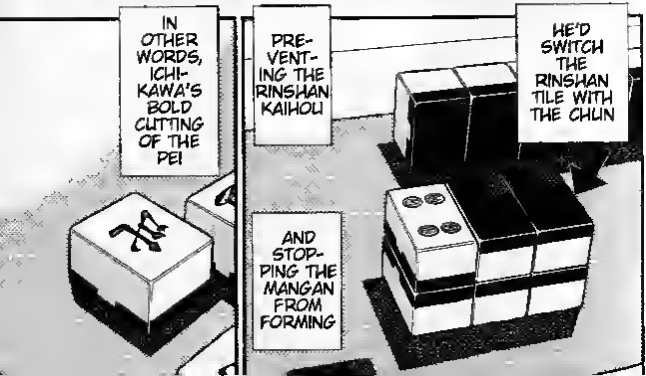
IN THE NEXT ROUND, AKAGI
CAN EASILY FORM A MANGAN OR HANEMAN
...
WHAT SHOULD I DO?
THEN I CAN'T SETTLE THE MATCH YET AGAIN
NORMALLY, A DAIMIN KAN, RINSHAN TSUMO AND NEW DORA
I WOULDN'T BE WORRIED ABOUT SUCH A THING
AND I HOLD AN IDEAL HAND WITH DORA 3
THIS IS REALLY STRONG
...IF I REASON IT OUT LOGICALLY ...
REASON IT OUT ...
BUT ...
THIS KID...
EXCEDES


WHAT IS HE PLANNING...
ICHI-KAWA PONDERS
THIS IS THE LONGEST HE'D HESITATED
SINCE THE START OF THE MATCH
BUT.. AT THE END OF IT
HE MAKES A DECISION
HE CUTS THE PEI!
U...

KAN!
HERE IT COMES!
BUT IF IT'S AKAGI, MAYBE ...
THIS IS UTMOST DIFFI-CULT
THE NEXT IS THE RIN SHAN TSUMO!
HE GOT THE DAI MIN KAN...
AKAGI HAS UNLOCKED THE FIRST DOOR TOWARDS THAT MANGAN

ICHIKAWA WASN'T SHAKEN
BEC-AUSE ...
AT THIS MO-MENT
MAYBE HE'LL GRAB IT EASILY ...


BUT IF AKAGI MADE A KAN
IF A KAN ISN'T DECLARED THEN HE'LL JUST CUT THE PEI
中
WHEN CUTTING THE PEI, HE HAD A CHUN AS WELL
ICHIKAWA HAD HIDDEN HIS METHOD OF STOPPING AKAGI IN HIS RIGHT HAND


IN OTHER WORDS, ICHI-KAWA'S BOLD CUTTING OF THE PEI
PRE-VENT-ING THE RINSHAN KAIHOU
HE'D SWITCH THE RINSHAN TILE WITH THE CHUN
AND STOP-PING THE MANGAN FROM FORMING

INSURED AGAINST THAT ONE-IN-A-MILLION CHANCE, BY SWITCHING THE TILE WITH THE CHUN!
WAS INSURED!
U-
SWITCH IT!
WAS INS-TANTLY DETE-CTED
AND THAT ONE IN A MILLION CHANCE OF DAI MIN KAN
THIS BRAT!!
AKAGI ...
A...
WH, WHOSE HAND IS THIS...

THE INSURANCE OF SWITCHING
HAD BEEN SEEN THROUGH
BUT ICHIKAWA INSTANTLY TAKES ANOTHER ROUTE
SO BE IT!
KU...
THE HAND AKAGI EXTENDED FOR THE PEI STOPPED ICHIKAWA FROM SWITCHING
THAT MEANS HIS HAND DOESN'T HAVE HAKU
AKAGI HAD DISCARDED A HAKU!
WITHOUT DORA 2, AKAGI CAN'T FORM A MANGAN
HE'LL SWITCH THE INDICATOR IF NOT THE RINSHAN TILE
AKAGI CAN'T GET ANY DORA!
WITH THIS CHUN...

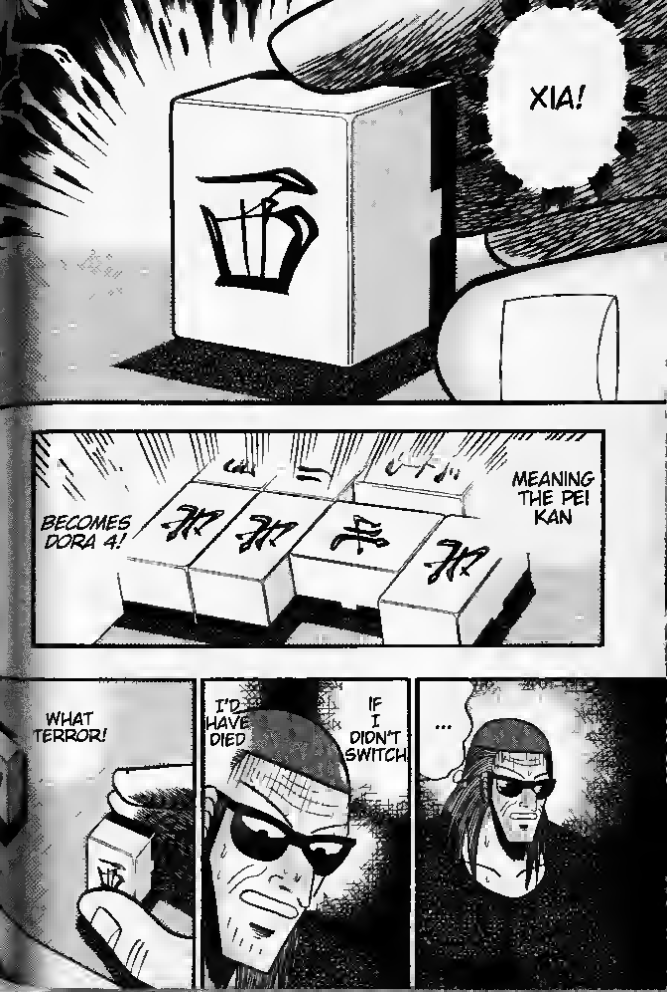
FUFU...
HE GROWS AFRAID OF AKAGI'S LUCK
BUT IT WOULD HAVE BEEN THE OPPOSITE
ICHIKAWA'D BLOCKED THE LETHAL MANGAN!
THAT MAKES 3 CALLS
FUCKING BASTARD...
NOW FOR THE RINSHAN TSUMO...
IS IT THE TSUMO TILE!
IT MIGHT BE THE SANSHOKU TILE HE'S WAITING FOR
THAT RINSHAN TILE IS A 3 SOU
BUT... THE ODDS ARE BELOW A THIRD

IS IT THE TSUMO TILE!!

ハハハ
UG...
ZAWA...
CAN'T BE...?
IT...
ざわ

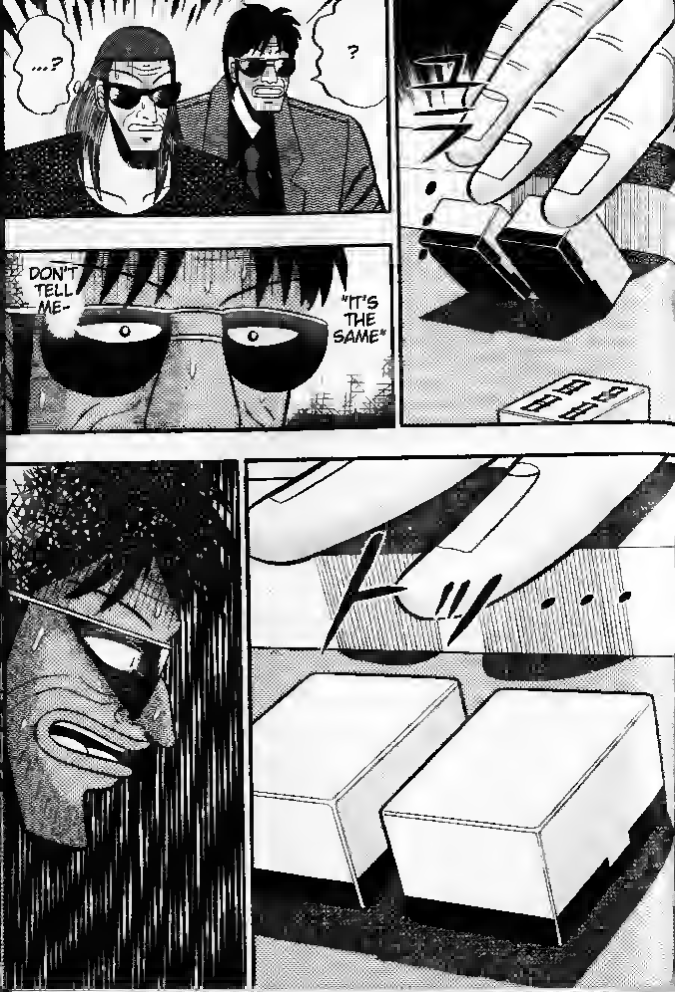
IT CAN'T BE THE WINNING TILE!
GU...
...
ざわ
ざわ
ZAWA... ZAWA...
SAN-SHOKU RINSHAN KAIHOU
IF HE GETS TWO NEW DORA
WHAT A TWIST
...
MAN-GAN

AT THIS POINT
...
ICHIKAWA'S VERY SOUL SHOOK
BUT IF HE HADN'T SWITCHED IT
THE NEW INDICATOR WOULD BE
HAVE FORCED HIM TO SWITCH THE INDICATOR WITH THE CHUN
AKAGI'S DEMONIC LUCK


XIA!
MEANING THE PEI KAN
BECOMES DORA 4!
...
IF I DIDN'T SWITCH
I'D HAVE DIED
WHAT TERROR!

BUT...
BY THE GODS
COULD IT BE... THAT HE REALLY IS POSSESSED
HIS LUCK SURPASSES HUMAN IMAGINATION
I CAN'T BE CARELESS AROUND THIS BRAT...
HE WON'T HAVE ANY DORA
THE DEMON LUCK HAS BEEN STOPPED BY MY CHUN
I HAVE ENSURED MY WIN...
THE NEW DORA ...
AH
YEAH ...
WE'LL SETTLE IT NEXT ROUND
...
IT WAS A NARROW ESCAPE
HIS HAND IS WORTH 2600
RINSHAN KAIHOU SANSHOKU
I'LL HAVE TO PAY, BUT AT LEAST I WON'T DIE YET...

NEW DORA ...
Ooo
EH?
THAT'S WEIRD
HAKU?
SO THE NEW DORA IS HAKU
CHUN ...
E... H...?
...?
FUFU ...
IT WON'T GO SO SMOOTH-LY!
IT'S THE SAME
BUT WELL
W-WHAT THE FUCK!
I THOUGHT THAT GIVEN THE FLOW NOW, THE PEI WOULD DEFINITELY BECOME THE NEW DORA
DON'T BE SO SHAME-LESS!

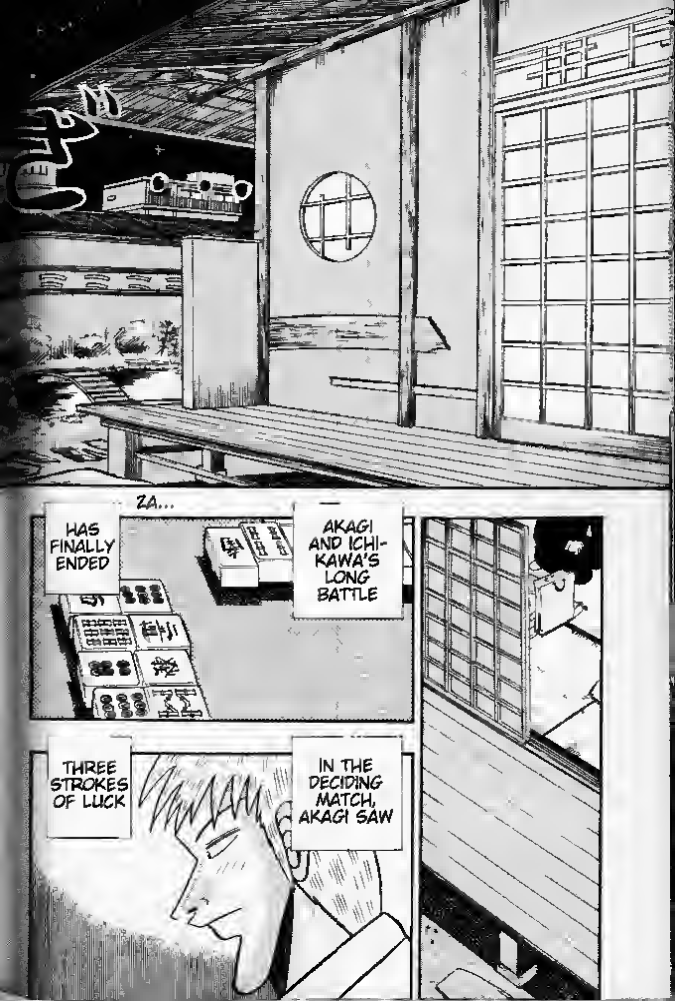

...?
?
DON'T TELL ME-
"IT'S THE SAME"
ドン・・・

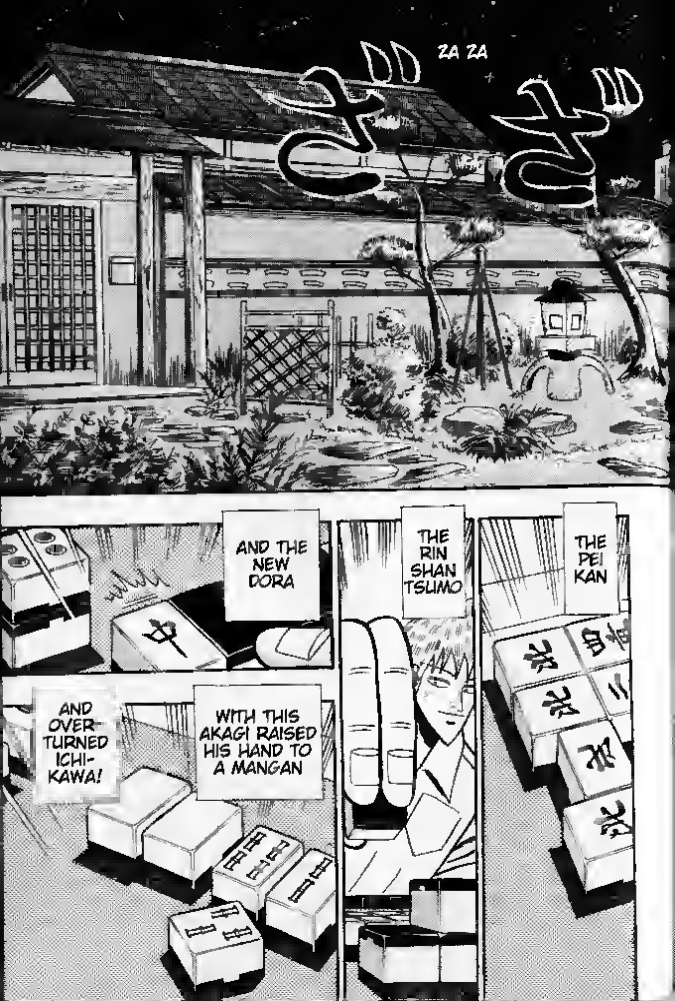
MAN-
GAN!
IT'S
SET-
TLED!
HAKU?
EH?
HAKU... THE
DORA FOR
THE HEAD!!
HAKU?
WE
WON!
WE
WOOOON!!

IT CAN'T BE!!
YOU THREW AWAY THAT CRITICAL HONOR TILE
THAT MEANS... YOU CUT THAT HAKU FROM AN AN KOU!??
AN KOU HIDDEN TRIPLET
IT CAN'T BE
WHY DO YOU HAVE HAKU FOR YOUR HEAD?
IT'S WHAT MOST PEOPLE USE, BUT...
RATIONALITY IS A RULE IN YOUR WORLD
FUFU ...
SUCH IRRA-TIONALI-
DOESN'T BIND ME ...
THAT CHAIN OF "RATION-ALITY"
TOO BAD, BECAUSE

IRRATIONAL RISK...
THAT'S THE TRUE FOUNDATION OF GAMBLING
DEVOTING YOURSELF TO IRRATIONALITY
IS GAMBLING ...
...
THE THRILL OF GAMBLING

CHAPTER 27: INDIFFERENCE
第27話無欲


ZA...
AKAGI AND ICHI-KAWA'S LONG BATTLE
HAS FINALLY ENDED
IN THE DECIDING MATCH, AKAGI SAW
THREE STROKES OF LUCK

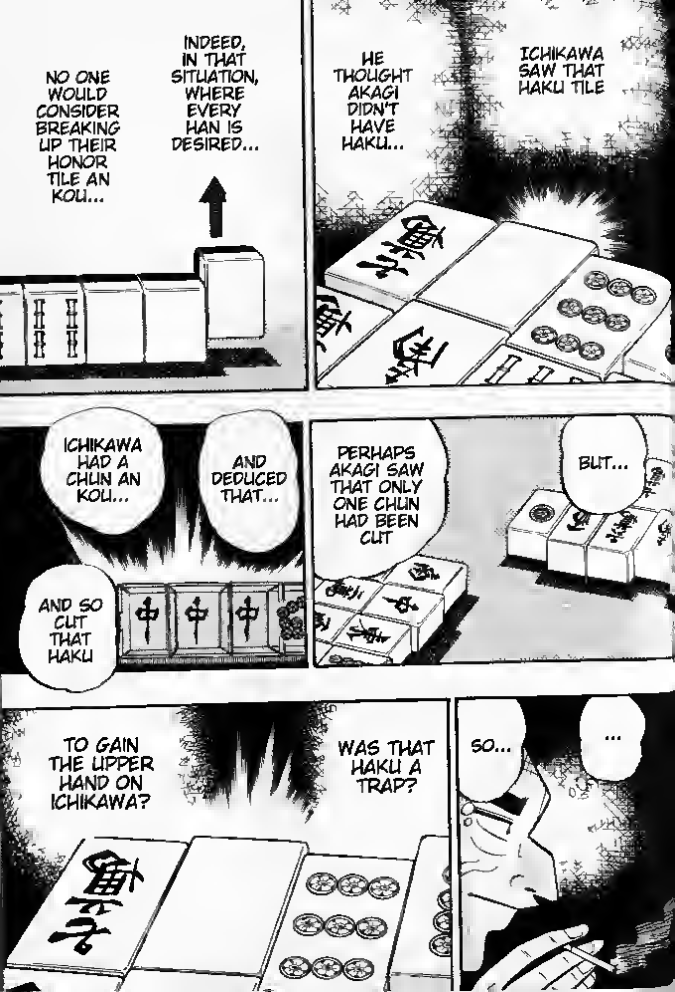

ZA ZA
THE PEI KAN
THE RIN SHAN TSUMO
AND THE NEW DORA
WITH THIS AKAGI RAISED HIS HAND TO A MANGAN
AND OVER-TURNED ICHI-KAWA!

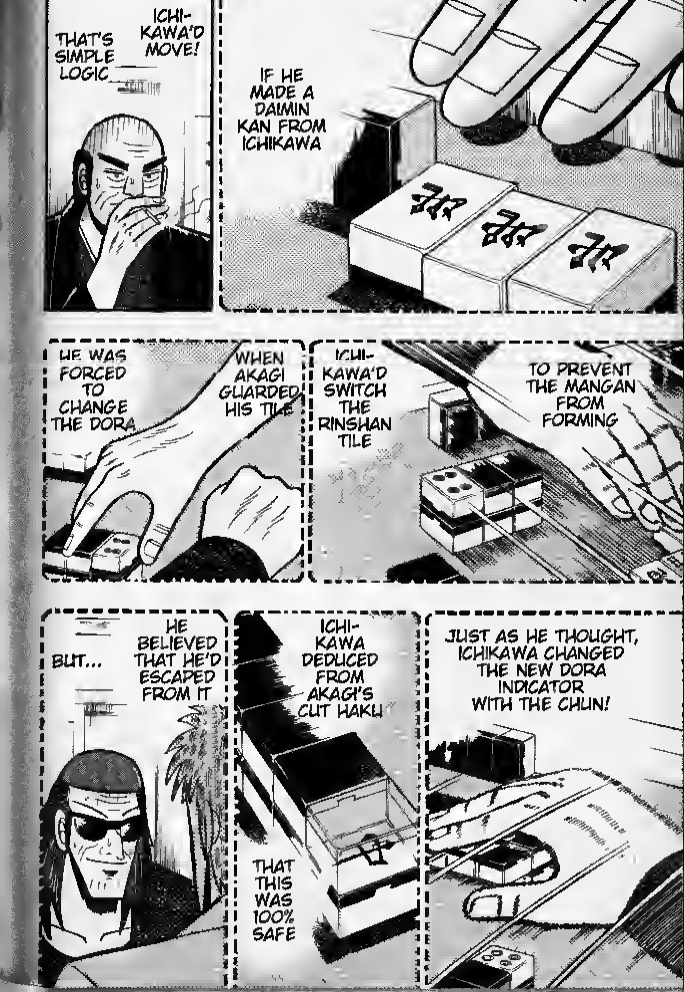
...
...

...

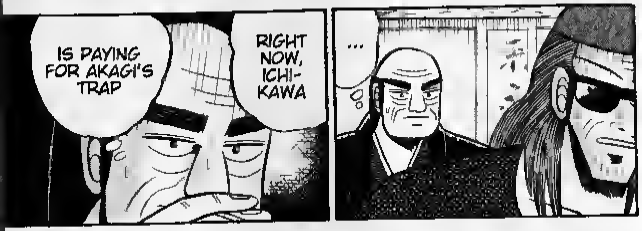
AKAGI CUT A HAKU SEVERAL TURNS BEFORE THE END

PURELY LUCK?
BUT ARE THE THREE STROKES OF LUCK


NO ONE WOULD CONSIDER BREAKING UP THEIR HONOR TILE AN KOU...
INDEED, IN THAT SITUATION, WHERE EVERY HAN IS DESIRED...
HE THOUGHT AKAGI DIDN'T HAVE HAKU...
ICHIKAWA SAW THAT HAKU TILE
ICHIKAWA HAD A CHUN AN KOU...
AND DEDUCED THAT...
PERHAPS AKAGI SAW THAT ONLY ONE CHUN HAD BEEN CUT
BUT...
AND SO CUT THAT HAKU
TO GAIN THE UPPER HAND ON ICHIKAWA?
WAS THAT HAKU A TRAP?
SO...
...


ICHI-KAWA'D MOVE!
THAT'S SIMPLE LOGIC
IF HE MADE A DAIMIN KAN FROM ICHIKAWA
HE WAS FORCED TO CHANGE THE DORA
WHEN AKAGI GUARDED HIS TILE
ICHI-KAWA'D SWITCH THE RINSHAN TILE
TO PREVENT THE MANGAN FROM FORMING
BUT...
HE BELIEVED THAT HE'D ESCAPED FROM IT
ICHI-KAWA DEDUCED FROM AKAGI'S CUT HAKU
THAT THIS WAS 100% SAFE
JUST AS HE THOUGHT, ICHIKAWA CHANGED THE NEW DORA INDICATOR WITH THE CHUN!

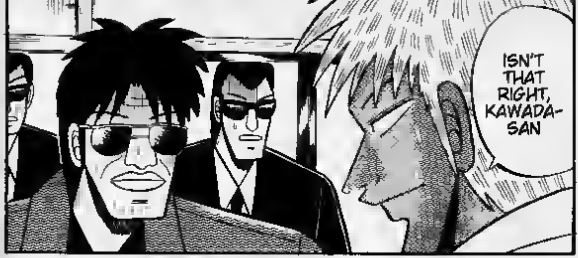
AKAGI KNEW IT ALL
BUT ...
HE'D BEEN DANCING IN AKAGI'S PALM ALL THIS WHILE...


IS PAYING FOR AKAGI'S TRAP
RIGHT NOW, ICHI-KAWA
...

AKAGI'S WIN
WASN'T ENTIRELY UP TO LUCK
IT WAS ALSO TECHNI-QUE...
TA-LENT ...
OVERWHELMING TALENT WHICH NO ONE HAS!

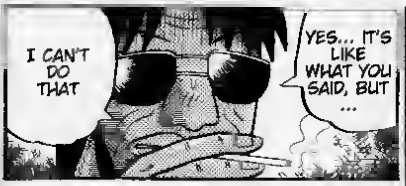
THE EIGHT MILLION
AKAGI...
...
...
TAKE IT

I'M DOUBLING UP!
I REFUSE IT
ス…
DON'T PUSH IT!
AKAGI!
O-OI
IS GOING TO CONTINUE UNTIL ONE OF US BREAKS
THIS MATCH
THAT'S WHAT GAMBLING IS
I HAVEN'T PLANNED ON STOPPING SINCE THE VERY BE-GINNING...
KNOW WHEN TO STOP!
YOU WON'T KEEP HAVING SUCH LUCK ...
Y-YEAH!


ISN'T THAT RIGHT, KAWADA-SAN

ZAWA ZAWA...

ざわざわ


I CAN'T DO THAT
YES... IT'S LIKE WHAT YOU SAID, BUT ...

AKAGI ...

WE DON'T HAVE ANOTHER PLAYER...
WE DIDN'T EXPECT ICHIKAWA TO LOSE

...
...
IT'LL BE AN EVEN MATCH
WHAT ARE YOU SAY-ING?
ISN'T IT FINE IF I FIGHT WITH ICHIKAWA AGAIN...
HE CAN'T TAKE ANY-MORE
WHEN HE LOST TO YOU...
ICHIKAWA REALISED HE CAN NEVER MATCH UP TO YOU
SOME-ONE EVEN HE CAN'T BEAT
MEANS IT WON'T MATTER WHOEVER I CHOOSE
IN OTHER WORDS
WHEN ICHI-KAWA LOST, WE'D GIVEN UP
WE SURR-ENDER!
THAT DECISION WILL NOT CHANGE
IT SUCKS, BUT...

ZAWA ZAWA
IT'S FINE, AKAGI
ざわ
ざわ
...
THIS MUCH IS ENOUGH
IF YOU WANT
I CAN SET UP SUCH STAGES FOR YOU NEXT TIME
ALL THE WAY UNTIL YOU ROT
SO!

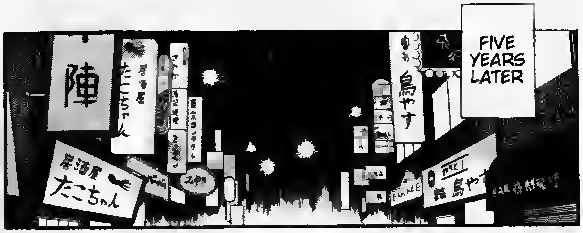
LET'S TAKE THIS
ANYWAY, NANGOU-SAN...
OOO!!
HA HA HA
HIII!
ZAWA ZAWA...
THE BATTLE HAD FINALLY ENDED
AND SO
ざわ ざわ...

HAD DISPERSED INTO THE AIR
ざわ..
ざわ..
THE TORTUROUS TENSION
ZAWA... ZAWA...
AND ABOUT AKAGI'S MANAGEMENT
ABOUT THIS MIRACULOUS GAME
TALK ABOUT THE MATCH WAS STARTING
AKAGI!
バサ...
IT WAS EMBARASSING, BUT I BEGAN CALCULATING HOW MUCH I'D WON
MY INSIDES WERE HOT
ERM...
AS FOR ME

I REMEMBER IT TO THIS DAY
THE EXPRESSION ON AKAGI
HA HA!
IT'S TOO MUCH FOR A MIDDLE SCHOOLER THOUGH!
THAT'S YOUR SHARE
A KID'S
DISINTERESTED LOOK
HIS EYES WERE PURE
THE MADNESS THAT HE HAD JUST NOW WAS GONE
YES ...
WHAT I SAW WAS...

HE WAS NO LONGER A DEMON...
THAT AKAGI WAS A 13 YEAR OLD MIDDLE SCHOOLER...
OUR TRUE COLOURS
WHAT AKAGI HAD THAT I DIDN'T
AKAGI'S SECRET
I TOOK A GOOD LOOK AT MYSELF
AND AT THAT MOMENT
BECAUSE...
FROM TONIGHT, I WILL NEVER GAMBLE AGAIN
YES...
I WILL NEVER MAKE IT BIG IN GAMBLING
I SAW IT...
...
AKAGI'S STRENGTH, AND MY WEAKNESS...

IN MY ENTIRE LIFE...
I WILL NEVER HAVE THOSE EYES
I'D NEVER SEE SUCH A FACE AGAIN...
AFTER PARTING WITH AKAGI,
...
THAT NIGHT


陣
FIVE YEARS LATER

YOU SAID YOU SAW HIS TRUE COLOURS BUT YOU DIDN'T SAY WHAT IT IS...
THAT SUPER STRONG KID, AKAGI
AH...
SO, WHAT IS IT?
HM?
...

INDIFF-ERENCE?
TO PUT IT SIMPLY, IT'S "INDI-FFERENCE"
...
I HATE TO TRIVI-ALISE IT, BUT...
I'LL TRY TO PUT IT IN WORDS...
...
INDIFF-ERENCE, HUH...
AKAGI IS STRONG BECAUSE HE DOESN'T CARE
YEAH...
IT ISN'T THAT SIMPLE...
FUFU ...
WHATEVER THE REASON, ONLY THOSE WHO WISH TO WIN WILL BE STRONG
...BUT GAMBLING IS A FIGHT FOR MONEY

...I SAW IT IN THE CRITICAL MOMENT...
IN FACT, THE HARDER YOU WISH THE WORSE IT BECOMES
...
NO MATTER HOW STRONG YOUR WISHES ARE YOUR SITUATION WON'T CHANGE
BE IT MAHJONG OR OTHER TYPES OF GAMBLING
WHAT HE LET GO OF
THAT AKAGI KID
WAS THE DESIRE TO LIVE
THAT YOU GIVE UP ON YOUR HOPES
IN GAMBLING, IT IS ESSENTIAL
I CAN'T DO THAT...
TO NOT THINK ABOUT WINNING...
SUCH A THING IS IMPOSSIBLE FOR ME
...

IT'S BEEN 5 YEARS
I QUIT
YASUOKA-SAN GAMBLES NOW AND THEN
BUT I NEVER GAMBLE
SOMETIMES I PLAY FOR FUN

I HAVEN'T HEARD ANYTHING FROM AKAGI
THAT BOY ...
HAS VANISHED
HAS HE MADE HIMSELF INSURMOUNTABLE WEALTH?
OR HAS HE BEEN BURNT TO DEATH BY THE FIRE OF GAMBLING?
AKAGI ...
...

原田酒店
アカギ3 完

近代麻雀コミックス
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